



GLOSSARY OF LEGISLATIVE TERMS

Brasília – DF

Standing Working Group for the Integration of the Chamber of Deputies with the Federal Senate
Legislative Glossary Subgroup

Glossary of Legislative Terms

Brasília, 2020

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Foreword

Gathered in a single building since their transfer to the new capital of the country, the two Legislative Houses of the Brazilian Parliament take with this publication an important step towards their integration. Not only in terms of their coexistence in the Palace of the National Congress, but also in the daily experience of the legislative process. In many aspects, this experience translates into joint action and a continuous effort for the convergence of ideas and concepts. We believe that it is possible to advance towards making these aspects dialogue with each other.

A meticulous research into the terminology used by the main stakeholders in the legislative process has led to the creation of this unified glossary. It outlines the peculiarities and convergences that already exist with regard to the main concepts of the legislative process. We wish to reiterate the Group's scope of describing the language already in use in both Houses. This has removed all pretense of reformulating or creating any new connotations, other than the existing conventions.

There is no need to dwell on the elementary benefits that the glossary provides for a precise and transparent fulfillment of the end-activities of the Federal Legislature. Initially, it brings tangible benefits for the development and maintenance of the computerized systems that record and structure the process of drafting laws. This creates a favorable scenario that leads to the improvement of the technical tools that make it public.

This effort will facilitate both the management and publication of the information about the processing of legislative proposals. This is an unprecedented opportunity to bring about much-needed convergence for the work of the Board Secretariats of both Legislative Houses. In addition, this convergence will serve as a reference for both the improvement of services and of the performance of all involved.

The terminological research is the first step in this effort that will next converge technological solutions and communication strategies in the Federal Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. With this glossary, internet websites, computerized systems and news agencies now have a secure source where to find definitions for the vocabulary used in the parliament. This is especially relevant as the intention of the reciprocal references to the procedures of each House is to achieve a high degree of precision.

The contribution of this glossary for the dynamics of the Brazilian democracy is however much broader. Brazilian citizens have recently experienced a renaissance in their political lives. This means a new scenario that will demand an effective participation in the legislative process and a direct interaction with Senators and Federal Deputies. This glossary will offer citizens a tool for parliamentary politics and will be made available electronically free of charge.

The organization of the entries, the various lists and indexes, as well as the inclusion of regulatory sources and finely detailed correlations between the terms allow the use of the glossary for a variety of interests and in different degrees of detail, as needed. The format serves both the internal aim of improving the management of the Legislature as the external aspects of exercising citizenship.

It is with great joy that I present this glossary. Its greatest merit is to serve as an instrument for transparency, for technical rigor and, above all, for citizen participation in the law drafting process. I acknowledge that it results from arduous research, brilliant organizational effort, and remarkable humility. I appreciate the endeavors of those who embarked on this project, whose main goal is to facilitate applications that are yet to come.

Luiz Fernando Bandeira de Mello Filho

SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE BOARD OF THE BRAZILIAN SENATE

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

Avante	Go Forward Party (Political Party)
c/c	Combined with
CAE [SF]	Committee on Economic Affairs
CAPADR [CD]	Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Food Supply and Rural Development
CAS [SF]	Committee on Social Affairs
CCai [CN]	Joint Committee for the Control of Intelligence Activities
CCJ [SF]	Committee on Constitution, Justice and Citizenship
CCJC [CD]	Committee on Constitution and Justice and Citizenship
CCT [SF]	Committee on Science, Technology, Innovation, Communication and Information Technology
CCTCI [CD]	Committee of Science and Technology, Communication and Information Technology
CCult [CD]	Committee on Culture
CD	Chamber of Deputies
CDC [CD]	Committee on Consumer Protection
CDeics [CD]	Committee on Economic Development, Industry, Commerce and Services
CDH [SF]	Committee on Human Rights and Participatory Legislation
CDHM [CD]	Committee on Human Rights and Minorities
CDR [SF]	Committee on Regional Development and Tourism
CDU [CD]	Committee on Urban Development
CE [CD]	Committee on Education
CE [SF]	Committee on Education, Culture and Sports

Cespo [CD]	Committee on Sports
CF	Federal Constitution
CFFC [CD]	Committee on Financial Oversight and Control
CFT [CD]	Committee on Finance and Taxation
CI [SF]	Committee on Infrastructure Services
Cidadania	Citizenship Party (Political Party)
CIdoso [CD]	Committee on the Protection of the Rights of the Elderly
Cindra [CD]	Committee on National Integration, Regional Development and on the Amazon
CLP [CD]	Committee on Participatory Legislation
CMA [SF]	Committee on the Environment
CMads [CD]	Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development
CMCPLP [CN]	Joint Committee of the National Congress on Issues Related to the Community of Portuguese Language Countries
CMCVM [CN]	Joint Standing Committee to Combat Violence against Women
CME	Special Joint Committee
CME [CD]	Committee on Mines and Energy
CMMC [CN]	Joint Standing Committee on Climate Change
CMMPV	Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree
CMO [CN]	Joint Committee on Planning, Public Budgets and Oversight
CMulher [CD]	Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Women
CN	National Congress

CPCMS [CN]	Brazilian Representation in the Mercosur Parliament
CPD [CD]	Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CPI	Parliamentary Committee of Investigation
CPMI	Joint Parliamentary Committee of Investigation
CRA [SF]	Committee on Agriculture and Land Reform
CRE [SF]	Committee on Foreign Affairs and National Defense
CREDN [CD]	Committee on Foreign Affairs and National Defense
CSF [SF]	Committee on the Senate of the Future
CSPCCO [CD]	Committee on Public Safety and Organized Crime Prevention
CSSF [CD]	Committee on Social Security and Family
CTasp [CD]	Committee on Labor, Administration and Public Service
CTFC [SF]	Committee on Transparency, Governance, Oversight and Control, and Consumer Protection
CTur [CD]	Committee on Tourism
CVT [CD]	Committee on Traffic and Transportation
DC	Christian Democracy (Political Party)
DCD	Journal of the Chamber of Deputies
DCN	Journal of the National Congress
DEM	Democrats (Political Party)
DSF	Journal of the Federal Senate
DVS	Separate Voting of an Amendment

Fipa [CN]	Joint Representative Committee of the National Congress at the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas
LC	Supplementary Law
MDB	Brazilian Democratic Movement (Political Party)
MPV	Provisional Presidential Decree
Novo	New Party
Patri	Patriot (Political Party)
PCB	Brazilian Communist Party
PCB [1990]	Brazilian Communist Party [1990]
PCdoB	Communist Party of Brazil
PCO	Workers' Cause Party
PDC [CD]	Draft Legislative Decree [CD]
PDL	Bill of Legislative Decree
PDN [CN]	Draft Legislative Decree [CN]
PDS [SF]	Draft Legislative Decree [SF]
PDT	Democratic Labor Party
PEC	Constitutional Amendment Bill
PEN	National Ecological Party
PFC [CD]	Proposal of Oversight and Control
PFL	Liberal Front Party
PFS [SF]	Proposal of Oversight and Control

PHS	Humanist Party of Solidarity
PL	Bill of Law
PLC	Bill of the Chamber of Deputies
PLP	Bill of Supplementary Law
PLS	Bill of the Senate
PLV	Bill of Conversion
PMB	Party of the Brazilian Women
PMDB	Brazilian Democratic Movement Party
PMN	Party of the National Mobilization
PMR	Municipal Renewal Party
Pode	We Can (Political Party)
PP	Progressive Party
PPB	Brazilian Progressive Party
PPL	Free Homeland Party
PPS [1992]	Popular Socialist Party [1992]
PR	Party of the Republic
PRB [2006]	Brazilian Republican Party [2006]
PRC	Bill of Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies
PRN	Bill of Resolution of the National Congress
PRN	National Reconstruction Party
Pros	Republican Party of the Social Order

PRP	Progressive Republican Party
PRS	Bill of Resolution of the Federal Senate
PRT	Revolutionary Workers' Party
PRTB	Brazilian Labor Renovation Party
PSB	Brazilian Socialist Party
PSC	Christian Social Party
PSD	Social Democratic Party
PSDB	Brazilian Social Democracy Party
PSDC [1997]	Christian Social Democratic Party [1997]
PSL	Social Liberal Party
PSN	National Solidarist Party
PSN	National Solidarity Party
PSol	Socialism and Freedom Party
PSTU	Unified Workers' Socialist Party
PT	Workers' Party
PTB	Brazilian Labor Party
PTC	Christian Labor Party
PTdoB	Labour Party of Brazil
PTN	National Labour Party
PV	Green Party
RCCN	Joint Standing Rules of the National Congress

RCD	Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies
RCN	Resolution of the National Congress
Rede	Sustainability Network (Political Party)
Republicanos	Republicans (Political Party)
RICD	Standing Rules of the Chamber of Deputies
RISF	Standing Rules of the Federal Senate
RSF	Resolution of the Federal Senate
SD	Solidarity (Political Party)
SF	Federal Senate
SGM	Secretariat-General of the Board
ss.	And the following
TVR	Concession and Renewal of Concession for Radio and Television Broadcasters
UP	Popular Unity (Political Party)
VTs	Separate Vote

Introduction

The legislative process is rich in concepts that are part of the vocabulary of both Legislative Houses of the National Congress. The Federal Constitution, the Standing Rules and the Joint Standing Rules define most of these concepts. Some concepts, however, have no definition or explicit reference in these regulatory texts.

This does not make them any less important for the institutional mission of the Legislative Branch. This glossary endeavors to compile the vocabulary used in the federal legislative process. It considers only the concepts expressed in the regulatory texts. It also includes the terms and acronyms of political parties and standing committees of the Legislative Houses and of the National Congress.

Within the Standing Working Group for the Integration of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies with the Federal Senate, we created the team responsible for preparing this Glossary of Legislative Terms. Its mission was to “list and study the terminology of the Federal Legislative; organize a unified glossary, and identify possible peculiarities and similarities amongst concepts.” As an initial basis for the work, we used the existing glossaries, released by the two Legislative Houses in their respective websites. We have also used a third glossary, not published, but revised by the Legislative Consultancy Office and the Documentation and Information Center, both bodies of the Chamber of Deputies. The organization of this Glossary prioritized the terms most often used in the legislative process. The standardization or creation of new terms is out of the scope of the glossary.

The Glossary of Legislative Terms contains five lists and two indexes, in the following order:

- List of Abbreviations and Acronyms;
- List of Concepts;
- List of Standing Committees;
- List of Political Parties;
- List of Differences and Similarities;
- Hierarchical Index; and
- Alphabetical and Subject Index.

The List of Abbreviations and Acronyms is an evidence of the importance and frequency of acronyms in the Federal Legislative. We have even identified the same acronym used for different terms. For example, “CME” means both “Comissão Mista Especial” (Select Joint Committee) within the National Congress, and “Comissão de Minas e Energia” (Committee on Mines and Energy) in the Chamber of Deputies. There are many such cases, which justifies the importance of a List of Abbreviations and Acronyms. This list contains 157 entries, as follows: four abbreviations, 37 acronyms of concepts, 45 acronyms of standing committees, and 51 acronyms of political parties.

The List of Concepts presents, in alphabetical order, the definitions of the main concepts of the legislative process. It also offers notes with legislative references, cross-referencing referred to by “See also” and “See”, hierarchical references of the genus-species types (“General concepts” and “Specific concepts”), and whole-part (“Has Parts” / “Part of”), as per examples of the entries in Figure 1, below. We can see notes on the in-house terminology of each Legislative House for the terms “Conclusive Examination” and “Conclusive Power”. Where applicable, we have cross-referenced terms with equivalent concepts in both Legislative Houses. Such is the case of “Conclusive Examination”, in the Chamber of Deputies, which is the equivalent, in the Federal Senate, of “Terminative Decision”, “Terminative Examination” and “Terminative Deliberation”.

Conclusive Examination

Examination phase of a proposal by the committees, with the power to pass or reject it, without further consideration of the plenary, unless there is an appeal by one tenth of the members of the Legislative House, pursuant to its Standing Rules.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 2, I; RICD, articles 24, II, 58 and 132, paragraph 2.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House*: [Terminative Decision](#).
- *General Concept*: [Appreciation](#).
- *See also*: [Conclusive Power](#), [Appeal against Conclusive Examination](#) and [Appeal in a Terminative Matter](#).
- *Translation*: *Apreciação Conclusiva* (Portuguese); *Análisis Conclusivo* (Spanish).

Conclusive Power

Power of the Committees of the Chamber of Deputies to consider proposals, waiving the deliberation of the Plenary.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 2, I; RICD, articles 24, II, 58 and 132, paragraph 2.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *See also*: [Conclusive Examination](#).
- *Translation*: *Poder Conclusivo* (Portuguese); *Poder Conclusivo* (Spanish).

Figure 1. Example with legislative references, notes, hierarchical and associative relations, and cross-referencing.

The List of Standing Committees contains, in alphabetical order, the names of the standing committees of the National Congress, of the Federal Senate and of the Chamber of Deputies. The entry for each committee includes full name, acronym, competent jurisdiction, and the provision that established the committee in the Standing Rules of the respective House, as shown in Figure 2.

<p>Committee on Sports (Cespo) [CD]</p> <p>Cespo is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) national sports system and its organization; policy and national plan for physical and sports education; b) general rules on sport; sports justice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RICD, article 32, XXII. • <i>Translation:</i> Comissão do Esporte (Cespo) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Deportes (Cespo) [CD] (Spanish). <p>Committee on the Environment (CMA) [SF]</p> <p>CMA is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - protection of the environment, pollution control, conservation of nature and protection of soil, natural and genetic resources, forests, hunting, fisheries, fauna, flora and water resources; II - national environment policy and system; III - preservation, conservation, exploitation and management of forests and biodiversity; IV - conservation and management of land use and water resources, in relation to the environment and sustainable development; V - inspection of food and agricultural and livestock products and inputs, with regard to the environment and sustainable development; VI - environmental law; VII - environmental regulatory agencies, including the National Water Agency (ANA); VIII - other related matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RISF, article 102-F. • <i>Translation:</i> Comissão de Meio Ambiente (CMA) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Medio Ambiente (CMA) [SF] (Spanish).
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Figure 2. List of Standing Committees.

The List of Political Parties includes, in alphabetical order, active political parties with definitive registration in the Superior Electoral Court. The full name, acronym, date of creation, references on the definitive registration, and name changes are included, as shown in Figure 3.

<p>Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB)</p> <p>Political party created on May 11, 1981.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSE Resolution 11,042 / 1981 (Definitive registration); TSE court decision on Petition No. 128 (1286-49.1996.6.00.0000) (Change of name). • <i>Previous denomination:</i> Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB). • <i>Translation:</i> Movimento Democrático Brasileiro (MDB) (Portuguese); Movimiento Democrático Brasileño (MDB) (Spanish). <p>Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB)</p> <p>See Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB).</p> <p>Brazilian Labor Party (PTB)</p> <p>Political party created on November 3, 1981.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSE Resolution No. 11,120/1981 (Definitive registration). • <i>Translation:</i> Partido Trabalhista Brasileiro (PTB) (Portuguese); Partido Laborista Brasileño (PTB) (Spanish).
--

Figure 3. List of Political Parties.

The List of Differences and Similarities seeks to evince the particularities of each Legislative House. It presents the terminology used specifically in the National Congress, the Federal Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. The

list records different terms for the same concepts. Such is the case of “Conclusive Examination” (CD) and “Terminative Decision” (SF). It also presents the inverse situation with one term having different concepts in the two Houses. This is the case of “Report”, which in the Chamber of Deputies is part of the Advisory Opinion. In the Federal Senate, it becomes an Advisory Opinion only after passed by a committee.

The Hierarchical Index organizes the concepts according to genus-species relationship (“General Concept” and “Specific Concept”), preceded by angled arrows (↳). The Index also organizes the concepts according to whole-part (“Has Parts” and “Part of”), preceded by diagonal arrows (↘). This type of organization helps visualize how the concepts relate to each other. From the analysis of Figure 4, we note that “Select Joint Committee” is a sub-type of the following concepts: “Select Committee”, “Temporary Committee”, “Joint Committee” and “Committee”. We also note in Figure 4 that “General Committee” is not a sub-type of “Committee”. For quick visualization, when a sub-type belongs to more than one general concept, the sub-type is italicized. This is the case of “Select Joint Committee”.

- Committee 30
 - ↳ Committee <as to membership> 31
 - ↳ Joint Committee 46
 - ↳ Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree (CMMPV) 47
 - ↳ Joint Parliamentary Committee of Investigation (CPMI) 47
 - ↳ Special Joint Committee (CME) 89
 - ↳ Committee <as to temporality> 31
 - ↳ Standing Committee 91
 - ↳ Directing Committee 38
 - ↳ Temporary Committee 96
 - ↳ External Committee 40
 - ↳ Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree (CMMPV) 47
 - ↳ Parliamentary Committee of Investigation (CPI) 61
 - ↳ Joint Parliamentary Committee of Investigation (CPMI) 47
 - ↳ Select Committee 82
 - ↳ Special Joint Committee (CME) 89
 - ↳ Representative Committee 78
- Committee Substitute 31

Figure 4. Hierarchical Index - Genus-Species Relationship.

The Alphabetical and Subject Index cross-references all of the entries in the Glossary's lists. The index also cross-references entries extracted from the Standing Rules on the competent jurisdiction of the standing committees of the National Congress, of the Federal Senate and of the Chamber of Deputies, according to Figure 5. For quick visualization, the number of the page of each concept appears in bold.

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Figure 5. Alphabetical and Subject Index.

Finally, the Glossary records the acronyms of proposals and other legislative matters within the Federal Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. Both Houses used different acronyms until the end of the 55th Congress (2015-2019). The acronyms have been standardized and in force since February 2019. The Glossary incorporates both previous and new acronyms.

List of Concepts

Absolute Majority

Quorum for adopting matters that requires a favorable number of votes, greater than half the composition of the collegiate.

- CF, article 47; RICD, article 183, § 1º; RISF, article 288, III.
- *General Concept:* [Quorum for Deliberation](#).
- *See also:* [Simple Majority](#).
- *Translation:* Maioria Absoluta (Portuguese); Mayoría Absoluta (Spanish).

Abstention

Act by which legislators exercise the right not to choose one of the alternatives available for voting. It is computed exclusively for the presence quorum required for the validation of the deliberation.

- RICD, articles 180, paragraph 2, and 183, paragraph 2; RISF, articles 288, paragraph 2, 294, I, “b”, and 298.
- *Translation:* Abstenção (Portuguese); Abstención (Spanish).

Acclamation

Unanimous expression of a collegiate or assembly (civil or military) in a deliberative process. In the legislative process, the election by acclamation is the vote by voice and applause, unanimously, rather than by ballot or individual vote.

- *See also:* [Symbolic Voting](#).
- *Translation:* Aclamação (Portuguese); Aclamación (Spanish).

Act of the Board

Regulatory act issued by the Board or the Directing Committee of a Legislative House on matters of its competent jurisdiction.

- RICD, article 17.
- *General Concept:* [Regulatory Act](#).
- *Translation:* Ato da Mesa (Portuguese); Acto de la Mesa (Spanish).

Ad hoc Rapporteur

See [Substitute Rapporteur](#).

Additional Round of Debate

Round to which a full substitute bill is submitted after adopted in a single round of voting by the plenary or by a committee.

- RISF, articles 270, sole paragraph, and 282, paragraph 2.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *General Concept:* [Round of Debate and Voting](#).
- *See also:* [Wording for an Additional Round of Debate](#).
- *Translation:* Turno Suplementar (Portuguese); Ronda Suplementaria (Spanish).

Additive Amendment

An amendment that proposes adding provisions to the text of the main proposal.

- RICD, article 118, paragraph 6; RISF, article 246, II.
- *General Concept:* [Amendment](#).
- *Translation:* Emenda Aditiva (Portuguese); Enmienda Aditiva (Spanish).

Adjournment of the Session

It is equivalent to the closure of a plenary session. In the Chamber of Deputies, it occurs in cases of serious disturbance, death of a legislator in office or of the head of one of the Branches of the Republic, decree of official mourning or presence in the debates of less than one tenth of the total number of Federal Deputies. In the Federal Senate, it occurs in the event of death of the President of the Republic, of the Vice President of the Republic or of a member of the National Congress. In the National Congress, it occurs due to the death of a legislator or of the head of one of the Branches of the Republic.

- RCCN, article 25; RICD, article 71; RISF, article 220.
- *Translation:* Levantamento da Sessão (Portuguese); Levantamiento de la Sesión (Spanish).

Administrative Bulletin

Official publication containing all acts and facts related to the general administration of a Legislative House.

- *General Concept:* [Official Publication](#).
- *Translation:* Boletim Administrativo (Portuguese); Boletín Administrativo (Spanish).

Admissibility

Fulfillment of the requirements for processing a proposal. In the current terminology of the Legislative Houses, admissibility is widely used in reference to meeting the requirements of urgency and relevance of provisional presidential decrees. It also applies to the requirements of constitutionality, juridicity, compatibility, as well as

financial and budgetary adequacy of proposals in general. In the case of the admissibility of amendments, the appropriateness of the subject matter is also considered.

- RCN 1/2002, articles 4, paragraph 4, and 8; RICD, articles 32, IV, “b”, coupled with 202, and 125; RISF, article 230, I.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Admissibility of a Provisional Presidential Decree](#) and [Admissibility of a Constitutional Amendment Bill](#).
- *See also:* [Constitutionality](#), [Juridicity](#) and [Admissibility Report](#).
- *Translation:* Admissibilidade (Portuguese); Admisibilidad (Spanish).

Admissibility of a Constitutional Amendment Bill

Fulfillment of the constitutional requirements for processing a Constitutional Amendment Bill (PEC). The Committee on Constitution and Justice and on Citizenship (CCJC) carries out the analysis.

- RICD, article 32, IV, “b”.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept:* [Admissibility](#).
- *See also:* [Unconstitutionality](#) and [Constitutional Amendment Bill \(PEC\)](#).
- *Translation:* Admissibilidade de Proposta de Emenda à Constituição (Portuguese); Admisibilidad de Propuesta de Enmienda a la Constitución (Spanish).

Admissibility of a Provisional Presidential Decree

Fulfillment of the constitutional requirements of a provisional presidential decree.

- RCN 1/2002.
- *General Concept:* [Admissibility](#).
- *See also:* [Provisional Presidential Decree \(MPV\)](#) and [Constitutional Requirements for a Provisional Presidential Decree](#).
- *Translation:* Admissibilidade de Medida Provisória (Portuguese); Admisibilidad de Medida Provisional (Spanish).

Admissibility Report

Advisory Opinion that analyzes the assumptions for admissibility of a proposal, such as its constitutionality, juridicity or economy.

- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion <as to content analyzed>](#).
- *See also:* [Admissibility](#), [Preliminary Examination](#) and [Constitutional Requirements for a Provisional Presidential Decree](#).

-
- *Translation:* Parecer de Admissibilidade (Portuguese); Dictamen de Admisibilidad (Spanish).

Adoption of a Proposal

Results from the vote in favor of a proposal. The presiding officer of the plenary session or of the committee meeting proclaims it.

- RICD, articles 17, I, “r”, 41, X, 182, 185, head of the article, and 200; RISF, article 298.
- *See also:* [Proposal](#) and [Rejection of a Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Aprovação de Proposição (Portuguese); Aprobación de Proposición (Spanish).

Advice and Consent

See [Confirmation Hearing](#).

Advisory Opinion

A type of ancillary legislative proposal, in which an opinion is expressed in favor or against a proposal.

- *Specific Concepts:* [Advisory Opinion <as to place where it was delivered>](#), [Advisory Opinion <as to result of the deliberation>](#), [Advisory Opinion <as to content analyzed>](#) and [Advisory Opinion <as to authorship>](#).
- *See also:* [Divergent Advisory Opinions](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer (Portuguese); Dictamen (Spanish).

Advisory Opinion <as to authorship>

- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Committee Advisory Opinion](#) and [Advisory Opinion of the Rapporteur](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer <quanto à autoria> (Portuguese); Dictamen <en cuanto a la autoría> (Spanish).

Advisory Opinion <as to content analyzed>

- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Terminative Advisory Opinion](#), [Admissibility Report](#) and [Advisory Opinion on the Merits](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer <quanto ao teor analisado> (Portuguese); Dictamen <en cuanto al contenido analizado> (Spanish).

Advisory Opinion <as to place where it was delivered>

- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Advisory Opinion of the Plenary](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer <quanto ao local em que foi proferido> (Portuguese); Dictamen <en cuanto al local> (Spanish).

Advisory Opinion <as to result of the deliberation>

- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Contrary Advisory Opinion](#), [Favorable Advisory Opinion](#) and [Prevailing Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer <quanto ao resultado da deliberação> (Portuguese); Dictamen <en cuanto al resultado de la deliberación> (Spanish).

Advisory Opinion of the Plenary

Advisory Opinion delivered in plenary by a rapporteur designated by the chairperson on behalf of the committee in the cases provided for in their respective Standing Rules.

- RCCN, article 20; RCN nº 1/2006, article 107; RICD, article 157, paragraph 2; RISF, articles 140 and 346.
- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion <as to place where it was delivered>](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer de Plenário (Portuguese); Dictamen del Pleno (Spanish).

Advisory Opinion of the Rapporteur

Rapporteur's opinion on the adoption or rejection of a matter.

- RICD, article 56.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Report \[SF\]](#).
- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion <as to authorship>](#).
- *See also:* [Prevailing Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer do Relator (Portuguese); Dictamen del Ponente (Spanish).

Advisory Opinion on the Merits

Advisory Opinion on the merits of a matter under analysis, focusing on the timeliness and technical-political convenience of the measures proposed.

- RCCN, article 17; RICD, article 53, I; RISF, article 90, XII.
- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion <as to content analyzed>](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer de Mérito (Portuguese); Dictamen de Fondo (Spanish).

Agenda

List of proposals or of other matters to be considered at a particular committee meeting or plenary session.

- *See also:* [Inversion of the Agenda](#), [Removal from the Agenda](#) and [Suspension of the Agenda](#).
- *Translation:* Pauta (Portuguese); Agenda (Spanish).

Agglutinative Amendment

An amendment to merge texts of other amendments or to merge the text of an amendment with the text of a main proposal to create congruence of the respective objects.

- RICD, article 118, paragraph 3.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept*: [Amendment](#).
- *Translation*: Emenda Aglutinativa (Portuguese); Enmienda Aglutinante (Spanish).

Amendment

Ancillary proposal intended to change the main proposal.

- RICD, article 118; RISF, articles 211, VI, 230 to 234.
- *General Concept*: [Ancillary Proposal](#).
- *Specific Concepts*: [Additive Amendment](#), [Agglutinative Amendment](#), [Modifying Amendment](#), [Suppressive Amendment](#), [Amendment of the Wording](#), [Second Degree Amendment](#) and [Substitute Bill](#).
- *Translation*: Emenda (Portuguese); Enmienda (Spanish).

Amendment of the Wording

An amendment to remedy any language mistakes, incorrect legislative technique or blatant errors in the proposal.

- RICD, article 118, paragraph 8; RISF, articles 234 and 323.
- *General Concept*: [Amendment](#).
- *See also*: [Modifying Amendment](#).
- *Translation*: Emenda de Redação (Portuguese); Enmienda de Redacción (Spanish).

Ancillary Proposal

Proposal that exists in relation to another proposal in course.

- *General Concept*: [Proposal](#).
- *Specific Concepts*: [Amendment](#) and [Bill of Conversion \(PLV\)](#).
- *Translation*: Proposição Acessória (Portuguese); Proposición Accesoria (Spanish).

Annals of the Chamber of Deputies

Official publication of the Chamber of Deputies containing legislative decisions and speeches of legislators.

- RICD, article 97, paragraph 1.
- *General Concept*: [Official Publication](#).
- *See also*: [Journal of the Chamber of Deputies \(DCD\)](#).

-
- *Translation:* Anais da Câmara dos Deputados (Portuguese); Boletín Oficial de la Cámara de Diputados (Spanish).

Annals of the Federal Senate

Official publication of the Federal Senate containing legislative decisions and speeches of the legislators. The publication of these annals ended in 2011.

- RISF, articles 209 and 210.
- *General Concept:* [Official Publication](#).
- *See also:* [Journal of the Federal Senate \(DSF\)](#).
- *Translation:* Anais do Senado Federal (Portuguese); Boletín Oficial del Senado Federal (Spanish).

Annals of the National Constituent Assembly

Official publication of the National Constitutional Convention containing decisions and speeches of the constituent legislators.

- *General Concept:* [Official Publication](#).
- *See also:* [Constitutional Convention](#).
- *Translation:* Anais da Assembleia Nacional Constituinte (Portuguese); Boletín Oficial de la Asamblea Nacional Constituyente (Spanish).

Appeal [CD]

Type of legislative proposal to reverse a decision by appealing to a higher instance, such as the Plenary.

- RICD, article 100.
- *General Concept:* [Proposal](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Appeal against Conclusive Examination](#), [Appeal against a Committee's Terminative Advisory Opinion](#) and [Appeal in a Point of Order](#).
- *Translation:* Recurso [CD] (Portuguese); Recurso [CD] (Spanish).

Appeal [SF]

With this instrument of the Standing Rules, the reversal of a decision is proposed, by appealing to a higher instance, such as the Plenary.

- RISF, articles 48, XI and paragraphs 1 to 3, 91, paragraphs 3 to 5, 101, paragraph 1, 254, sole paragraph, and 405.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Appeal in a Terminative Matter](#) and [Appeal in a Point of Order](#).
- *Translation:* Recurso [SF] (Portuguese); Recurso [SF] (Spanish).

Appeal against a Committee's Terminative Advisory Opinion

Instrument of the Standing Rules that aims at the examination by the Plenary of a matter with a Terminative Advisory Opinion as to its constitutionality or juridicity and/or as to its financial or budgetary adequacy.

- RICD, articles 54 and 144.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept*: [Appeal \[CD\]](#).
- *See also*: [Terminative Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Translation*: Recurso contra Parecer Terminativo de Comissão (Portuguese); Recurso contra Dictamen Definitivo de Comisión (Spanish).

Appeal against Conclusive Examination

Instrument of the Standing Rules that aims at the examination of a conclusive matter by the Plenary.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 2, I; RICD, articles 24, II, 58 and 132, paragraph 2.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House*: [Appeal in a Terminative Matter](#).
- *General Concept*: [Appeal \[CD\]](#).
- *See also*: [Conclusive Examination](#).
- *Translation*: Recurso contra Apreciação Conclusiva (Portuguese); Recurso contra Análisis Conclusivo (Spanish).

Appeal in a Point of Order

Instrument of the Standing Rules that aims at the examination of a terminative matter by the Plenary.

- RCCN, article 132; RICD, articles 57, XXI, and 95, paragraph 8; RISF, article 408.
- *General Concepts*: [Appeal \[CD\]](#) and [Appeal \[SF\]](#).
- *See also*: [Point of Order](#).
- *Translation*: Recurso em Questão de Ordem (Portuguese); Recurso en Cuestión de Orden (Spanish).

Appeal in a Terminative Matter

Instrument of the Standing Rules that aims at the examination of a terminative matter by the Plenary.

- RISF, article 91, paragraphs 3 to 5.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Equivalent term in the other House*: [Appeal against Conclusive Examination](#).
- *General Concept*: [Appeal \[SF\]](#).
- *See also*: [Conclusive Examination](#) and [Terminative Decision](#).
- *Translation*: Recurso em Matéria Terminativa (Portuguese); Recurso en Materia Definitiva (Spanish).

Appreciation

Debate and voting of a proposal.

- *Specific Concepts:* [Conclusive Examination](#) and [Preliminary Examination](#).
- *It has parts:* [Debate of a Proposal](#) and [Voting](#).
- *See also:* [Consideration](#).
- *Translation:* [Apreciação](#) (Portuguese); [Examination](#) (Spanish).

Assignment

In the legislative process, assignment is an act of the President that defines which committees are competent to express an opinion about a proposal submitted to the Legislative House.

- RICD, article 139; RISF, article 48, X, article 49.
- *General Concept:* [Order](#).
- *Synonymous:* Initial Order.
- *Translation:* [Distribuição](#) (Portuguese); [Distribución](#) (Spanish).

Attendance of a Cabinet Minister

Presence of a Cabinet Minister in a committee or plenary session resulting from a summons or an invitation. The attendance may also take place spontaneously at the initiative of the Minister.

- CF, article 50; RICD, articles 91, 219 to 222; RISF, articles 397 to 400-A.
- *See also:* [Summons of an Authority](#).
- *Translation:* [Comparecimento de Ministro de Estado](#) (Portuguese); [Comparecencia de Ministro de Estado](#) (Spanish).

Author

Person or institution submitting a proposal.

- CF, article 62; RICD, article 102, paragraph 1; RISF, article 243.
- *See also:* [Support for a Proposal](#), [Submission of a Proposal](#), [Initiative](#) and [Popular Initiative](#).
- *Translation:* [Autor](#) (Portuguese); [Autor](#) (Spanish).

Bicameral

Legislative branch composed of two legislative chambers or houses. This is the case of the National Congress, composed of the Chamber of Deputies and the Federal Senate.

- *See also:* [Initiating House](#) and [Revising House](#).
- *Translation:* [Bicameral](#) (Portuguese); [Bicameral](#) (Spanish).

Bill of Consolidation

Proposal to systematize into a single law the provisions on a matter contained in different laws. It should be restricted to formal aspects, without changing the contents of the consolidated rules.

- LCP 95/1998, article 13; RICD, articles 212 and 213; RISF, articles 213-A to 213-E.
- *General Concept:* [Proposition <as to matter>](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Consolidação (Portuguese); Proposición de Consolidación (Spanish).

Bill of Conversion (PLV)

Proposal submitted by the rapporteur of a provisional presidential decree consolidating the proposed amendments to its original text.

- CF, article 62; RCN 1/2002, article 5, paragraph 4.
- *General Concept:* [Ancillary Proposal](#).
- *See also:* [Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree \(CMMPV\)](#) and [Provisional Presidential Decree \(MPV\)](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Lei de Conversão (PLV) (Portuguese); Proyecto de Ley de Conversión (PLV) (Spanish).

Bill of Law (PL)

Proposal to provide for a matter of the regulatory jurisdiction of the Union and pertinent to the duties of the National Congress. It is subject, after passing, to either sanction or veto of the president.

- RICD, article 109, I; RISF, article 213, I.
- *General Concept:* [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#).
- *Synonymous:* Bill of the Chamber of Deputies (PLC) and Bill of the Senate (PLS).
- *See also:* [Ordinary Law](#), [Sanction](#) and [Presidential Veto](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Lei (PL) (Portuguese); Proposición de Ley (PL) (Spanish).

Bill of Legislative Decree (PDL)

Proposal to regulate matters of the exclusive jurisdiction of the Legislative Branch, without the sanction of the President of the Republic.

- RICD, article 109, II; RISF, article 213, II.
- *General Concept:* [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#).
- *Synonymous:* Draft Legislative Decree [CD] (PDC), Draft Legislative Decree [CN] (PDN) and Draft Legislative Decree [SF] (PDS).
- *See also:* [Legislative Decree](#).

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- *Translation:* Projeto de Decreto Legislativo (PDL) (Portuguese); Proyecto de Decreto Legislativo (PDL) (Spanish).

Bill of Popular Initiative

Proposal, at the initiative of citizens, submitted to the Chamber of Deputies.

- CF, article 61, paragraph 2; RICD, article 252.
- *General Concept:* [Proposition <as to matter>](#).
- *See also:* [Popular Initiative](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Lei de Iniciativa Popular (Portuguese); Proposición de Ley de Iniciativa Popular (Spanish).

Bill of Resolution

Proposal for the drafting of a resolution.

- RCCN, article 128; RICD, article 109, III; RISF, article 213, III.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Bill of Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies \(PRC\)](#), [Bill of Resolution of the National Congress \(PRN\)](#) and [Bill of Resolution of the Federal Senate \(PRS\)](#).
- *See also:* [Resolution](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Resolução (Portuguese); Proyecto de Resolución (Spanish).

Bill of Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies (PRC)

Proposal for the drafting of a resolution of the Chamber of Deputies.

- RICD, article 109, III.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concepts:* [Bill of Resolution](#) and [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#).
- *See also:* [Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies \(RCD\)](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Resolução da Câmara dos Deputados (PRC) (Portuguese); Proyecto de Resolución de la Cámara de Diputados (PRC) (Spanish).

Bill of Resolution of the Federal Senate (PRS)

Proposal for the drafting of a Resolution of the Federal Senate.

- RISF, article 213, III.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *General Concepts:* [Bill of Resolution](#) and [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#).
- *See also:* [Resolution of the Federal Senate \(RSF\)](#).

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- *Translation:* Projeto de Resolução do Senado Federal (PRS) (Portuguese); Proyecto de Resolución del Senado Federal (PRS) (Spanish).

Bill of Resolution of the National Congress (PRN)

Proposal for the drafting of a Resolution of the National Congress.

- RCCN, articles 119, paragraph 2, and 128.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *General Concepts:* [Bill of Resolution](#) and [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#).
- *See also:* [Resolution of the National Congress \(RCN\)](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Resolução do Congresso Nacional (PRN) (Portuguese); Proyecto de Resolución del Congreso Nacional (PRN) (Spanish).

Bill of Supplementary Law (PLP)

Proposal for the drafting of a Supplementary Law.

- CF, article 69; RICD, article 109, I; RISF, article 213, I.
- *General Concept:* [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#).
- *See also:* [Supplementary Law \(LC\)](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Lei Complementar (PLP) (Portuguese); Proyecto de Ley Complementaria (PLP) (Spanish).

Bill of the Chamber of Deputies (PLC)

See [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#).

Bill of the National Congress

Proposal to provide for budgetary matters of exclusive initiative of the Head of the Executive Branch. It is analyzed by the CMO, which will issue an advisory opinion on it, and passed by the National Congress.

- CF, article 166; RCN nº 1/2006, article 2.
- *General Concept:* [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Lei do Congresso Nacional (PLN) (Portuguese); Proposición de Ley del Congreso Nacional (PLN) (Spanish).

Bill of the Senate (PLS)

See [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#).

Blockage of the Agenda

See [Suspension of the Agenda](#).

Board of the Chamber of Deputies

See [Directing Committee](#).

Board of the Federal Senate

See [Directing Committee](#).

Board of the National Congress

Body responsible for conducting the work of the joint sessions of the National Congress. The President of the Federal Senate chairs it, the other positions being held alternately by the occupants of equivalent positions in the Chamber of Deputies and in the Federal Senate.

- CF, article 57, paragraph 5.
- *Translation:* Mesa do Congresso Nacional (Portuguese); Mesa del Congreso Nacional (Spanish).

Brief Communications

Speeches of up to five minutes held in the first part of the ordinary sessions of the Chamber of Deputies. They are also called Short-Address Speeches. They also occur in the joint sessions of the National Congress.

- RCCN, article 31; RICD, article 81.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept:* [Speech](#).
- *Translation:* Breves Comunicações (Portuguese); Comunicaciones Breves (Spanish).

Budget Bill

Proposal estimating revenues and setting expenditures for the following financial year. Formally submitted to the Legislative Branch by the head of the Executive Branch within the constitutional deadline, with the structure and level of detail defined by the law on budgetary directives (LDO) of the fiscal year.

- CF, article 166; RCCN, articles 89 to 103; RCN 1/2006.
- *General Concept:* [Proposition <as to matter>](#).
- *Translation:* Projeto de Lei Orçamentária (Portuguese); Proyecto de Ley de Presupuestos (Spanish).

By the Order

Instrument of the Standing Rules used by legislators to request information on the business of the session, to complain regarding the observance of the Standing Rules and to point out a flaw or a mistake in the agenda. It is different from a "Point of Order".

- RISF, article 14, X, "a".
- *General Concept:* [Speech](#).
- *See also:* [Point of Order](#) and [Complaint](#).
- *Translation:* Pela Ordem (Portuguese); Moción de Orden (Spanish).

Call for Extraordinary Legislative Sessions

Act by which the National Congress is summoned to work in a period other than that foreseen for its regular operation.

- CF, article 57, paragraph 6; RICD, article 2, paragraph 4; RISF, article 2, II.
- *See also:* [Period of Operation of the National Congress](#) and [Extraordinary Legislative Session](#).
- *Translation:* Convocação Extraordinária (Portuguese); Convocatoria Extraordinaria (Spanish).

CD

See [Chamber of Deputies \(CD\)](#).

Censure of a Legislator

Verbal or written penalty applicable to a legislator in case of actions considered to be in violation of or incompatible with decorum.

- RICD, articles 17, I, x, and 73, IX; RCD 2/2011, articles 10, I, 11 and 12; RISF, article 24, V; RSF 20/1993, articles 7th and 9th.
- *See also:* [Code of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum](#) and [Parliamentary Decorum](#).
- *Translation:* Censura ao Parlamentar (Portuguese); Censura al Parlamentario (Spanish).

CF

See [Federal Constitution \(CF\)](#).

Chamber of Deputies (CD)

Federal Legislative House that is part of the National Congress. It is composed of representatives of the people, elected by the proportional system, in each state of the Federation, territory and the Federal District.

- CF, article 45.

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- *General Concept:* [Legislative House <as to federative level>](#).
 - *Translation:* Câmara dos Deputados (CD) (Portuguese); Cámara de Diputados (CD) (Spanish).

City Council

Body of the Legislative Branch of each municipality for which the people elect the members. It is responsible for drafting, debating and passing legal norms of its competent jurisdiction.

- CF, articles 29 to 31
- *General Concept:* [Legislative House <as to federative level>](#).
- *Translation:* Câmara Municipal (Portuguese); Órgano Legislativo Municipal (Spanish).

Clerk's Office

See [Secretariat-General of the Board \(SGM\)](#).

Closure of a Session

Act of the President closing the proceedings of the Plenary session.

- RISF, articles 155, paragraph 4, and 177.
- *Synonymous:* End of Session.
- *See also:* [Opening of a Session](#).
- *Translation:* Encerramento de Sessão (Portuguese); Clausura de la Sesión (Spanish).

CME

See [Special Joint Committee \(CME\)](#).

CMMPV

See [Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree \(CMMPV\)](#).

CN

See [National Congress \(CN\)](#).

Code of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum

Rule that establishes the ethical principles and basic rules of decorum to guide the conduct of Federal Deputies and Senators.

- RCD 25/2001 and 2/2011; RSF 20/1993.
- *General Concept:* [Legal Norm](#).

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- *See also:* [Censure of a Legislator](#), [Council of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum](#) and [Parliamentary Decorum](#).
 - *Translation:* Código de Ética e Decoro Parlamentar (Portuguese); Código de Ética y Decoro Parlamentario (Spanish).

College of Leaders

Body composed of the leaders of the Majority, the Minority, the parties, the parliamentary blocs and the government. Among other duties, it is responsible for issuing an opinion on matters of the competent jurisdiction of the President and of the Directing Board of the Chamber of Deputies.

- RICD, article 20.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *See also:* [Parliamentary Bloc](#), [Leadership](#), [Parliamentary Majority](#) and [Parliamentary Minority](#).
- *Translation:* Colégio de Líderes (Portuguese); Junta de Portavoces (Spanish).

Commencement of the Legislative Session

Act of the President proclaiming the inauguration of the activities of the National Congress.

- RCCN, article 57.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *Synonymous:* Opening of a Legislative Session.
- *See also:* [Commencement Session of a Legislative Session](#).
- *Translation:* Inauguração da Sessão Legislativa (Portuguese); Apertura de las Sesiones Legislativas (Spanish).

Commencement Session of a Legislative Session

Joint session of the National Congress to inaugurate the Ordinary Legislative Session.

- CF, article 57, paragraph 3, I; RCCN, articles 57-59.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *General Concepts:* [Session <as to purpose>](#), [Joint Session](#) and [Solemn Session](#).
- *See also:* [Commencement of the Legislative Session](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão de Inauguração de Sessão Legislativa (Portuguese); Sesión de Apertura de las Sesiones Legislativas (Spanish).

Committee

A parliamentary body formed by a portion of the members of the Legislative Houses and established in accordance with their respective Standing Rules. It is responsible for a series of duties both of the legislative process and of oversight and control of the Public Administration.

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- CF, article 58; RCCN, articles 9 to 21; RICD, articles 22-64; RISF, articles 71 to 153.
 - *Specific Concepts:* [Committee <as to membership>](#), [Committee <as to temporality>](#) and [Representative Committee](#).
 - *See also:* [Installation Meeting](#).
 - *Translation:* Comissão (Portuguese); Comisión (Spanish).

Committee <as to membership>

- *General Concept:* [Committee](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Joint Committee](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão <quanto à composição> (Portuguese); Comisión <en cuanto a la composición> (Spanish).

Committee <as to temporality>

- *General Concept:* [Committee](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Standing Committee](#) and [Temporary Committee](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão <quanto à temporalidade> (Portuguese); Comisión <en cuanto a la temporalidad> (Spanish).

Committee Advisory Opinion

Advisory Opinion by which a committee expresses its views on any matter subject to its study. It is subject to adoption by the Plenary of the committee.

- RCCN, articles 15 and 16; RICD, articles 126 to 130; RISF, articles 133 to 139.
- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion <as to authorship>](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer de Comissão (Portuguese); Dictamen de la Comisión (Spanish).

Committee Advisory Opinion Debated in the Plenary

Advisory opinion to be voted on by the Plenary in which a committee responds to a consultation submitted by another committee or by the Plenary.

- RISF, arts. 99, I, 101, I.
- *General Concept:* [Proposition <as to matter>](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer de Comissão Deliberado em Plenário (Portuguese); Dictamen de Comisión para Deliberación del Pleno (Spanish).

Committee Substitute

Committee member designated to replace any of the members of the respective parliamentary group in the committee.

- RICD, article 26, paragraph 1; RISF, article 84.
- *Translation:* Suplente de Comissão (Portuguese); Suplente de Comisión (Spanish).

Complaint

With this act, a Federal Deputy protests against non-compliance with the standing rules or against any malfunction of the administrative services of the House.

- RICD, articles 55, sole paragraph, and 96.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *See also:* [By the Order](#).
- *Translation:* Reclamação (Portuguese); Moción de Repudio (Spanish).

Concession and Renewal of Concession for Radio and Television Broadcasters (TVR)

A Presidential Message accompanies this type of matter and submits to the National Congress the concession or renewal of concession of radio and television broadcasters. It is initially submitted to the Committee on Science and Technology, Communication and Information Technology of the Chamber of Deputies. If the Committee agrees to its contents, the Committee will draft the respective Bill of Legislative Decree, which will then follow the regular process.

- CF, articles 49, XII, and 223; RICD, article 32, III, “h”; RISF, article 104-C, VII.
- *Translation:* Ato de Concessão e Renovação de Concessão de Emissora de Rádio e Televisão (TVR) (Portuguese); Acto de Concesión y Renovación de Concesión de Emisoras de Radio y Televisión (TVR) (Spanish).

Conclusive Examination

Examination phase of a proposal by the committees, with the power to pass or reject it, without further consideration of the plenary, unless there is an appeal by one tenth of the members of the Legislative House, pursuant to its Standing Rules.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 2, I; RICD, articles 24, II, 58 and 132, paragraph 2.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Terminative Decision](#).
- *General Concept:* [Appreciation](#).
- *See also:* [Conclusive Power](#), [Appeal against Conclusive Examination](#) and [Appeal in a Terminative Matter](#).
- *Translation:* Apreciação Conclusiva (Portuguese); Análisis Conclusivo (Spanish).

Conclusive Power

Power of the Committees of the Chamber of Deputies to consider proposals, waiving the deliberation of the Plenary.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 2, I; RICD, articles 24, II, 58 and 132, paragraph 2.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *See also*: [Conclusive Examination](#).
- *Translation*: Poder Conclusivo (Portuguese); Poder Conclusivo (Spanish).

Confirmation Hearing

Legislative procedure whereby the competent committee inquires the nominee for public office in the cases provided for in the Federal Constitution.

- CF, article 52, III and IV; RISF, article 383, II, “e”.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Synonymous*: Advice and Consent.
- *Translation*: Arguição Pública (Portuguese); Comparecencia Parlamentaria (Spanish).

Conflict of Jurisdiction

Question raised by any Deputy or committee about a committee's competent jurisdiction to consider a matter, based on the provisions of the house's Standing Rules. The President of the Chamber decides about any conflict of jurisdiction.

- RICD, article 141.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Translation*: Conflito de Competência (Portuguese); Conflicto de Competencia (Spanish).

Congress

Period of operation of the Legislative Branch lasting four years. It runs from the inauguration of legislators on February 1 of the year following their election to the inauguration of their successors in the subsequent election. Each congress comprises four ordinary legislative sessions.

- CF, article 44, sole paragraph.
- *See also*: [Legislative Session](#).
- *Translation*: Legislatura (Portuguese); Legislatura (Spanish).

Consideration

Act by collegiate bodies to decide on a matter in the agenda. Deliberation consists of voting on a matter.

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- RCCN, article 43; RICD, article 180; RISF, article 288.
 - *See also:* [Appreciation](#) and [Voting](#).
 - *Translation:* Deliberação (Portuguese); Deliberación (Spanish).

Constitution

Fundamental rule of the legal system of a State.

- *General Concept:* [Legal Norm](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Federal Constitution \(CF\)](#).
- *Synonymous:* Magna Carta.
- *See also:* [Constitutional Amendment](#).
- *Translation:* Constituição (Portuguese); Constitución (Spanish).

Constitutional Amendment

Type of legal norm that amends the Federal Constitution.

- CF, article 60.
- *General Concept:* [Legal Norm](#).
- *See also:* [Constitution](#), [Federal Constitution \(CF\)](#) and [Constitutional Amendment Bill \(PEC\)](#).
- *Translation:* Emenda Constitucional (Portuguese); Enmienda Constitucional (Spanish).

Constitutional Amendment Bill (PEC)

Legislative proposal to amend the Federal Constitution.

- CF, article 60; RICD, articles 201 to 203; RISF, article 354.
- *General Concept:* [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#).
- *See also:* [Admissibility of a Constitutional Amendment Bill](#), [Federal Constitution \(CF\)](#) and [Constitutional Amendment](#).
- *Translation:* Proposta de Emenda à Constituição (PEC) (Portuguese); Propuesta de Enmienda a la Constitución (PEC) (Spanish).

Constitutional Convention

Assembly summoned specially or extraordinarily to write the Constitution of a State.

- *See also:* [Annals of the National Constituent Assembly](#).
- *Translation:* Assembleia Constituinte (Portuguese); Asamblea Constituyente (Spanish).

Constitutional Fast Track

Urgency required by the President of the Republic to process bills of his or her initiative. It has precedence over the others.

- CF, article 64, paragraph 1.
- *See also:* [Fast-track](#).
- *Translation:* Urgência Constitucional (Portuguese); Urgencia Constitucional (Spanish).

Constitutional Requirements for a Provisional Presidential Decree

The constitutional requirements of relevance and urgency as a prerequisite for the examination of the merits of provisional presidential decrees.

- CF, article 62; RCN 1/2002.
- *See also:* [Admissibility of a Provisional Presidential Decree](#), [Provisional Presidential Decree \(MPV\)](#) and [Admissibility Report](#).
- *Translation:* Pressupostos Constitucionais de Medida Provisória (Portuguese); Requisitos Constitucionales de Medida Provisional (Spanish).

Constitutionality

Quality of what is constitutional, that is, that is in conformity with the precepts of the Federal Constitution. The Committee on Constitution and Justice and on Citizenship, in general, examines the constitutionality of the proposals pending before the House.

- RICD, article 53, III; RISF, article 101, I.
- *See also:* [Admissibility](#), [Juridicity](#) and [Legality](#).
- *Translation:* Constitucionalidade (Portuguese); Constitucionalidad (Spanish).

Contrary Advisory Opinion

Committee advisory opinion for the rejection based on the merits of a proposal.

- RICD, article 133; RISF, article 254.
- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion <as to result of the deliberation>](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer Contrário (Portuguese); Dictamen en Contra (Spanish).

Council of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum

Disciplinary body, charged with ensuring observance of ethical precepts and parliamentary decorum. It is responsible for initiating and gathering information in disciplinary cases arising from complaints concerning conducts that violate the parliamentary decorum or are incompatible with it.

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- RICD, article 21-E; RCD 25/2001 (Code of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum of the Chamber of Deputies), articles 6 to 8; RSF 20/1993.
 - *See also:* [Code of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum](#) and [Parliamentary Decorum](#).
 - *Translation:* Conselho de Ética e Decoro Parlamentar (Portuguese); Consejo de Ética y Decoro Parlamentario (Spanish).

CPI

See [Parliamentary Committee of Investigation \(CPI\)](#).

CPMI

See [Joint Parliamentary Committee of Investigation \(CPMI\)](#).

DCD

See [Journal of the Chamber of Deputies \(DCD\)](#).

DCN

See [Journal of the National Congress \(DCN\)](#).

Debate of a Proposal

Phase of a proposal examination that precedes voting. In the course of the debate, registered speakers take the floor to speak for or against a proposal.

- RCCN, articles 37-40; RICD, articles 165-179; RISF, articles 272-279.
- *Part of:* [Appreciation](#).
- *See also:* [Postponement of Discussion](#), [Proposal](#) and [Speech](#).
- *Translation:* Discussão de Proposição (Portuguese); Debate de Proposición (Spanish).

Debate Session

Plenary session exclusively for the speeches of and debate among legislators, without a matter for discussion or voting.

- RICD, articles 65, III, “a”, and 66, paragraph 3.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Thematic Debates Session](#).
- *General Concept:* [Session <as to nature>](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão de Debates (Portuguese); Sesión de Discusión (Spanish).

Declaration of Vote

It allows legislators to explain the reasons for their vote on a matter, after announcement of the result of the voting. This procedure cannot be done in secret sessions or in secret voting.

- RCCN, article 45; RICD, article 182, sole paragraph; RISF, article 316.
- *Translation*: Declaração de Voto (Portuguese); Declaración del Voto (Spanish).

Delegated Law

Type of normative instrument drafted by the head of the Executive Branch following delegation of the Legislative Branch. The delegation must be approved by a specific resolution explaining both its content and exercise. A delegated law cannot deal with: acts of exclusive jurisdiction of the National Congress; acts of private jurisdiction of the Chamber of Deputies or of the Federal Senate; matters reserved for supplementary laws; organization of the Judiciary or of the Public Prosecutor's Office, the career or guarantees of their members; nationality, citizenship or individual, political or electoral rights; multi-year plans, budgetary directives and budgets.

- CF, article 68; RCCN, articles 116-127.
- *General Concept*: [Legal Norm](#).
- *See also*: [Legislative Delegation](#).
- *Translation*: Lei Delegada (Portuguese); Ley de Delegación (Spanish).

Deliberative Meeting

Committee meeting to decide on a legislative proposal.

- RICD, article 46, paragraph 7, coupled with 50; RISF, articles 108 and 109.
- *General Concept*: [Meeting <as to purpose>](#).
- *Translation*: Reunião Deliberativa (Portuguese); Reunión Deliberativa (Spanish).

Deliberative Session

Ordinary session or extraordinary session in which there is an agenda or an order of business defined by the President of the Legislative House to debate and vote on proposals.

- RICD, article 65, II; RISF, article 154, I, paragraphs 1 and 2.
- *General Concept*: [Session <as to nature>](#).
- *Specific Concepts*: [Extraordinary Session](#), [Ordinary Session \[CD\]](#) and [Ordinary Session \[SF\]](#).
- *Translation*: Sessão Deliberativa (Portuguese); Sesión Deliberativa (Spanish).

Detailed Report

Document submitted by a Parliamentary Committee of Investigation at the end of its inquiry, containing its conclusions and suggestions. The report must be forwarded to the competent authorities in accordance with the Standing Rules.

- RICD, article 37, head of the article.
- *See also:* [Parliamentary Committee of Investigation \(CPI\)](#).
- *Translation:* Relatório Circunstanciado (Portuguese); Informe Circunstanciado (Spanish).

Directing Board

See [Directing Committee](#).

Directing Committee

Governing body responsible for the legislative work and administrative tasks of the Legislative House.

- CF, articles 57, paragraph 4, and 58, paragraph 1; RICD, articles 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 14 and 15; RISF, articles 46, 73, 77 and 98.
- *General Concept:* [Standing Committee](#).
- *Synonymous:* Board of the Chamber of Deputies, Board of the Federal Senate *and* Directing Board.
- *See also:* [Election of the Board](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Diretora (Portuguese); Comisión Directiva (Spanish).

Directions for a Parliamentary Group

Guidance given by the leader to members of a political party or of a parliamentary bloc to take a stand or vote in a particular way.

- RICD, articles 10, IV, and 192, paragraph 2; RISF, article 308.
- *See also:* [Parliamentary Bloc](#) *and* [Leader](#).
- *Translation:* Orientação de Bancada (Portuguese); Sentido del Voto (Spanish).

Dismissal of a Proposal

Act of storing a proposal in the archives of a Legislative House.

- RICD, articles 17, II, “d”, 105, 133, 145, paragraph 3, 164, paragraph 4; RISF, articles 101, § 1º, 254, 334, § 4º.
- *See also:* [Retrieval of a Proposal](#), [Mootness](#) *and* [Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Arquivamento de Proposição (Portuguese); Archivo de Proposición (Spanish).

Divergent Advisory Opinions

Advisory opinions of distinct committees that diverge in relation to the same proposal.

- RICD, article 24, II, “g”.
- *See also:* [Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Translation:* Pareceres Divergentes (Portuguese); Dictámenes Divergentes (Spanish).

Draft Bill

Outline, proposal or preliminary version of a text not yet formally submitted as a proposal to the Legislative House.

- *See also:* [Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Anteprojeto (Portuguese); Anteproyecto (Spanish).

Draft Legislative Decree [CD] (PDC)

See [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#).

Draft Legislative Decree [CN] (PDN)

See [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#).

Draft Legislative Decree [SF] (PDS)

See [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#).

DSF

See [Journal of the Federal Senate \(DSF\)](#).

DVS

See [Separate Voting of an Amendment \(DVS\)](#).

Election Certificate

Document issued by the Electoral Court that certifies a candidate's election to the parliamentary term of office. It must be presented to the Directing Board of the respective Legislative House as a condition of inauguration.

- RICD, article 3; RISF, article 4.
- *Translation:* Diploma (Portuguese); Credencial (Spanish).

Election of the Board

Election held at the beginning of the first and third legislative sessions of each congress for the selection of the members of the Directing Board, composed of the President, two Vice-Presidents, four Secretaries and four substitute Secretaries.

- RICD, article 5; RISF, articles 59 and 60.
- *See also:* [Directing Committee](#).
- *Translation:* Eleição da Mesa (Portuguese); Elección de la Mesa (Spanish).

Electronic Panel

Electronic equipment installed in the plenary or committees to register voters, directions to parliamentary groups, votes and the result of each voting carried out by the electronic system, and to record attendance of legislators.

- *See also:* [Separate Voting for Examination on the Electronic Panel](#).
- *Translation:* Painele Eletrônico (Portuguese); Panel Electrónico (Spanish).

Enactment

Act of declaring the official existence of a rule in the legal system.

- CF, 66, paragraph 7; RCN 1/2002, article 12; RICD, article 200; RISF, article 328.
- *See also:* [Sanction](#).
- *Translation:* Promulgação (Portuguese); Promulgación (Spanish).

End of Session

See [Closure of a Session](#).

Engrossed Bill

Official document forwarded for sanction or enactment, or to the other Legislative House containing the final text of the proposal adopted by one of the Legislative Houses or by a joint session of the National Congress.

- RCCN, articles 134 and 139; RICD, article 200, paragraph 1; RISF, articles 328 and 329.
- *Translation:* Autógrafo (Portuguese); Mensaje Motivado (Spanish).

Examination of Proposition

See [Request for Examination](#).

Express Repeal of Rule

Effect of an act that expressly extinguishes the validity of a rule or part of it.

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- LCP 95/1998, article 9, head.
 - *Translation*: Revogação Expressa de Norma (Portuguese); Derogación Expresa (Spanish).

External Committee

Temporary Committee that a Legislative House may create to represent it outside its seat in events to which the House has been invited or which it has to attend.

- RICD, article 38; RISF, article 75.
- *General Concept*: [Temporary Committee](#).
- *Translation*: Comissão Externa (Portuguese); Comisión Externa (Spanish).

Extraordinary Legislative Session

Period of parliamentary work in which the National Congress is summoned for extraordinary work, for a certain period, during the parliamentary recess, in the cases and conditions provided for in the Federal Constitution.

- CF, article 57, paragraph 6 to 8; RICD, article 2, II; RISF, article 2, II.
- *General Concept*: [Legislative Session](#).
- *See also*: [Call for Extraordinary Legislative Sessions](#), [Period of Operation of the National Congress](#) and [Parliamentary Recess](#).
- *Translation*: Sessão Legislativa Extraordinária (Portuguese); Sesión Legislativa Extraordinaria (Spanish).

Extraordinary Meeting

Committee meeting held at a time or day other than the regular meetings of the committee.

- RICD, article 46, paragraphs 4 and 5; RISF, article 107, II.
- *General Concept*: [Meeting <as to the periodicity>](#).
- *Translation*: Reunião Extraordinária (Portuguese); Reunión Extraordinaria (Spanish).

Extraordinary Session

Session that takes place on a day or time different from those of the ordinary sessions. It lasts four hours and is exclusively devoted to the debate and voting of the matters included in the Order of Business.

- RICD, article 65, II, “b”, and 67; RISF, article 154, I, “b”, and paragraph 2.
- *General Concept*: [Deliberative Session](#).
- *Translation*: Sessão Extraordinária (Portuguese); Sesión Extraordinaria (Spanish).

Fast-track

Procedural rite that waives certain requirements, deadlines and formalities so that a particular proposal can be promptly examined, until a final decision is taken upon it.

- RICD, articles 52, I, 151, I, and 152; RISF, articles 336 et seq., 375 et seq.
- *General Concept:* [Special Regime](#).
- *See also:* [Constitutional Fast Track](#), [Procedural Fast Track](#) and [Utmost Urgency](#).
- *Translation:* Regime de Urgência (Portuguese); Procedimiento de Urgencia (Spanish).

Favorable Advisory Opinion

Advisory opinion of a committee for passing a proposal based on its merits.

- *General Concept:* [Advisory Opinion <as to result of the deliberation>](#).
- *Translation:* Parecer Favorável (Portuguese); Dictamen Favorable (Spanish).

Federal Constitution (CF)

Fundamental rule of the legal system of a Federative State.

- *General Concept:* [Constitution](#).
- *See also:* [Constitutional Amendment](#) and [Constitutional Amendment Bill \(PEC\)](#).
- *Translation:* Constituição Federal (CF) (Portuguese); Constitución Federal (CF) (Spanish).

Federal Deputy

Legislator who represents the people, elected in each unit of the Federation by the proportional system for the Chamber of Deputies. The number of deputies is proportional to the population of each unit of the Federation. A minimum of eight and a maximum of seventy are elected for one term in office of four years, the same duration of a congress.

- CF, article 45.
- *General Concept:* [Legislator](#).
- *See also:* [Senator](#) and [Substitute Federal Deputy](#).
- *Translation:* Deputado Federal (Portuguese); Diputado Federal (Spanish).

Federal Senate (SF)

Body of the National Congress composed of representatives of the States and of the Federal District, elected according to the majority principle.

- CF, article 46.
- *General Concept:* [Legislative House <as to federative level>](#).

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- *Translation:* Senado Federal (SF) (Portuguese); Senado Federal (SF) (Spanish).

Filibuster

In a broad sense, it is the use, by legislators, of all procedural means to delay or to avoid voting on a matter. The most commonly used mechanisms are long speeches, requests for postponement of the debate and the voting, and exit from the Plenary to avoid quorum. In a strict sense, it is the instrument used to avoid voting on a matter, announced by the leader of a party or of a bloc. With this tactic, the legislators under the leader have their attendance considered for the quorum of deliberation.

- RICD, article 82, paragraph 6; RISF, article 13, paragraph 2.
- *See also:* [Postponement of Discussion](#), [Postponement of Voting](#), [Parliamentary Speech](#) and [Quorum](#).
- *Translation:* Obstrução (Portuguese); Obstrucción (Spanish).

Final Text

- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Translation:* Texto Final (Portuguese); Texto Final (Spanish).

Final Wording

Legislative text resulting from the adoption of a proposal by the Plenary. It is presented as an Advisory Opinion and submitted for adoption of the Plenary.

- RCCN, article 51; RICD, articles 195, paragraph 1, and 196; RISF, articles 317 ff.
- *Specific Concept:* [Final Wording of the Substitute Bill](#).
- *Translation:* Redação Final (Portuguese); Redacción Final (Spanish).

Final Wording Amended

Legislative text that consolidates both the final wording and the amendments passed in the final or single debate of the proposal.

- RICD, article 198, paragraph 2.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Final Wording of the Substitute Bill](#).
- *Translation:* Redação Final Emendada (Portuguese); Redacción Final Enmendada (Spanish).

Final Wording of the Substitute Bill

Legislative text which, based on the wording for an additional round of debate, consolidates the amendments adopted in that additional round. It is presented as an Advisory Opinion and submitted for adoption of the Plenary.

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- RISF, articles 317 and 324.
 - *Note*: in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
 - *Equivalent term in the other House*: [Final Wording Amended](#).
 - *General Concept*: [Final Wording](#).
 - *Translation*: Redação Final do Substitutivo (Portuguese); Redacción Final de la Proposición Sustitutiva (Spanish).

First Round Wording [CD]

Wording of the text of a proposal as adopted in the first round of voting.

- RICD, article 194.
- *Equivalent term in the other House*: [Wording for the Second Round of Voting](#).
- *Translation*: Redação do Vencido [CD] (Portuguese); Redacción del Vencido [CD] (Spanish).

First Round Wording [SF]

See [Wording for an Additional Round of Debate](#).

First-Round Wording Rapporteur

See [Substitute Rapporteur](#).

General Committee

Plenary event to debate relevant matters, discuss bills of popular initiative or the attendance of a Cabinet Minister.

- RICD, article 91.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *See also*: [Thematic Debates Session](#).
- *Translation*: Comissão Geral (Portuguese); Comisión General (Spanish).

General Rapporteur

Legislator designated to consolidate partial reports (in the case of codes) or sectorial reports (in the case of Annual Budget Bill (PLOA) and present the general report.

- RCN 1/2006, articles 65 ff. RICD, articles 57, II, and 205, IV; RISF, articles 374 ff.
- *General Concept*: [Rapporteur <as to the scope>](#).
- *Translation*: Relator-Geral (Portuguese); Ponente General (Spanish).

Global Voting

Voting on the text of a proposal as a whole and not in parts or article by article.

- RCCN, article 49, paragraphs 1 and 2; RICD, article 189; RISF, article 300, II.
- *General Concept:* [Voting <as to scope>](#).
- *Translation:* Votação em Globo (Portuguese); Votación Global (Spanish).

Impeachment

See [Removal from Office](#).

Impediment

Situation in which a legislator is unable to take part in a vote or hold a position.

- RCCN, article 48; RICD, article 180, paragraph 6; RISF, article 306.
- *See also:* [Voting](#).
- *Translation:* Impedimento (Portuguese); Impedimento (Spanish).

Initial Order

See [Assignment](#).

Initiating Chamber

See [Initiating House](#).

Initiating House

In bicameral legislative systems, it is the legislative house that initiates a proposal that may be reviewed by the other house.

- CF, articles 61, paragraph 2, and 65.
- *General Concept:* [Legislative House <as to bicameralism phase>](#).
- *Synonymous:* Initiating Chamber.
- *See also:* [Bicameral](#) and [Revising House](#).
- *Translation:* Casa Iniciadora (Portuguese); Cámara de Origen (Spanish).

Initiative

Capacity, power or duty, provided for in the Federal Constitution, laws or Standing Rules, assigned to a person or a group of persons to submit a legislative proposal.

- CF, article 61.

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- *Specific Concept:* [Popular Initiative](#).
 - *See also:* [Submission of a Proposal](#) and [Author](#).
 - *Translation:* Iniciativa (Portuguese); Iniciativa (Spanish).

Installation Meeting

Specific meeting of a committee to set it up and elect its Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons, convened by the President of the Legislative House. In the case of the Federal Senate, the most senior member (RISF, article 88, paragraph 1) may convene the installation meeting.

- RICD, article 39, paragraph 1; RISF, article 88.
- *General Concept:* [Meeting <as to purpose>](#).
- *See also:* [Committee](#).
- *Translation:* Reunião de Instalação (Portuguese); Reunión Constitutiva (Spanish).

Interruption

Brief and opportune interruption of the speaker on the tribune for inquiry, comment or clarification of the subject under debate.

- RICD, article 176; RISF, article 14, XII.
- *General Concept:* [Speech](#).
- *Translation:* Aparte (Portuguese); Interrupción del Orador (Spanish).

Interstice

Required time interval between the successive stages of the legislative process. It is counted in sessions, days or hours.

- RCCN, article 143, VI; RICD, article 150; RISF, article 280.
- *Translation:* Interstício (Portuguese); Intervalo (Spanish).

Inversion of the Agenda

Change in the order of examination of agenda items for a Plenary session or a committee meeting. It can only occur if a request is passed by the respective collegiate.

- RCCN, article 34, sole paragraph; RICD, articles 50, first paragraph, and 83, sole paragraph, II, “d”; RISF, article 175, IV.
- *Synonymous:* Inversion of the Order of Business.
- *See also:* [Order of Business](#) and [Agenda](#).
- *Translation:* Inversão de Pauta (Portuguese); Cambio en la Agenda (Spanish).

Inversion of the Order of Business

See [Inversion of the Agenda](#).

Joint Committee

Committee composed of Deputies and Senators. It may be permanent or temporary.

- RCCN, articles 9th to 21th; RCN 1/2006, 1/2002, 2/2007, 2/2013, 1/2014, 2/2014 and 1/2011.
- *General Concept:* [Committee <as to membership>](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Special Joint Committee \(CME\)](#), [Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree \(CMMPV\)](#) and [Joint Parliamentary Committee of Investigation \(CPMI\)](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Mista (Portuguese); Comisión Mixta (Spanish).

Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree (CMMPV)

Temporary Committee responsible for giving advisory opinions on Provisional Presidential Decrees issued by the President of the Republic on non-budgetary matters. Its duration follows the validity of the provisional presidential decree (up to one hundred and twenty days). The Committee may extend for another sixty days to issue a legislative decree to regulate the juridical relations in force during the validity of MPV, in case it was rejected or lost effectiveness due to a deadline expiration, or in case it passed as a Bill of Conversion.

- CF, article 62, paragraph 9; RCN 1/2002.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *General Concepts:* [Joint Committee](#) and [Temporary Committee](#).
- *See also:* [Provisional Presidential Decree \(MPV\)](#) and [Bill of Conversion \(PLV\)](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Mista de Medida Provisória (CMMPV) (Portuguese); Comisión Mixta de Medida Provisional (CMMPV) (Spanish).

Joint Parliamentary Committee of Investigation (CPMI)

Joint temporary Committee created at the request of at least one-third of the members of each House of the National Congress, to investigate a fact for a defined period, with powers of judicial authorities, in addition to other powers provided for by the Houses' Standing Rules.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 3; RCCN, articles 21; RICD, articles 35 to 37; RISE, articles 145 to 153.
- *General Concepts:* [Joint Committee](#) and [Parliamentary Committee of Investigation \(CPI\)](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Parlamentar Mista de Inquérito (CPMI) (Portuguese); Comisión Parlamentaria Mixta de Investigación (CPMI) (Spanish).

Joint Processing

Attachment of a proposal to the case docket of another of the same type, dealing with an analogous or related matter, so that they may be considered together.

- RICD, articles 139, I, 142 and 143; RISF, articles 48, paragraph 1 to 3, 258 to 260.
- *Synonymous*: Temporary Attachment.
- *Translation*: Tramitação em Conjunto (Portuguese); Tramitación Conjunta (Spanish).

Joint Session

Session in which Federal Deputies and Senators meet to: inaugurate the legislative session; swear in the President and Vice-President elected; enact amendments to the Federal Constitution; discuss and vote on the budget; deliberate on vetoed matters; delegate to the President of the Republic powers to legislate; draft or reform the Joint Standing Rules, and address other cases foreseen in the Federal Constitution and in the Joint Standing Rules.

- CF, article 57, paragraph 3; RCCN, article 1.
- *General Concept*: [Session <as to membership>](#).
- *Specific Concepts*: [Session for the Inauguration of the President and Vice-President of the Republic](#), [Commencement Session of a Legislative Session](#) and [Session for the Reception of a Foreign Head of State](#).
- *Translation*: Sessão Conjunta (Portuguese); Sesión Conjunta (Spanish).

Joint Standing Rules of the National Congress (RCCN)

Systematized set of disciplinary norms for the organization and operation of the National Congress.

- *General Concept*: [Standing Rules](#).
- *Translation*: Regimento Comum do Congresso Nacional (RCCN) (Portuguese); Reglamento del Congreso Nacional (RCCN) (Spanish).

Journal of the Chamber of Deputies (DCD)

Official publication of the Chamber of Deputies containing, inter alia, the minutes of committee meetings and plenary sessions, as well as proposals.

- *General Concept*: [Official Publication](#).
- *See also*: [Annals of the Chamber of Deputies](#).
- *Translation*: Diário da Câmara dos Deputados (DCD) (Portuguese); Diario de la Cámara de Diputados (DCD) (Spanish).

Journal of the Federal Senate (DSF)

Official publication of the Federal Senate containing, inter alia, the minutes of committee meetings and plenary sessions, as well as proposals.

- *General Concept:* [Official Publication](#).
- *See also:* [Annals of the Federal Senate](#).
- *Translation:* Diário do Senado Federal (DSF) (Portuguese); Diario del Senado Federal (DSF) (Spanish).

Journal of the National Congress (DCN)

Official publication of the National Congress containing, inter alia, the minutes of the committee meetings and plenary sessions, as well as proposals.

- *General Concept:* [Official Publication](#).
- *Translation:* Diário do Congresso Nacional (DCN) (Portuguese); Diario del Congreso Nacional (DCN) (Spanish).

Juridicity

Compliance with the juridical system in force. One of the aspects analyzed in admissibility.

- *See also:* [Admissibility](#), [Constitutionality](#) and [Legality](#).
- *Translation:* Juridicidade (Portuguese); Juridicidad (Spanish).

LC

See [Supplementary Law \(LC\)](#).

Leader

Legislator chosen to represent his or her parliamentary group or bloc.

- RCCN, articles 4 to 8; RICD, articles 9 to 11; RISF, articles 62 and 66.
- *See also:* [Parliamentary Group](#), [Party Parliamentary Group](#), [Parliamentary Bloc](#), [Leadership](#) and [Directions for a Parliamentary Group](#).
- *Translation:* Líder (Portuguese); Portavoz (Spanish).

Leaders' Communication

Communication on matters of national relevance made by the leaders or delegated to their respective vice-leaders. In the Chamber of Deputies, it can occur at any time during the session. The time used by the leaders is always proportional to the size of the group they represent. The announcement is of at least three minutes and of at most ten minutes. The government leader has the right to speak for an average of the time allotted for represent-

ations of the Majority and of the Minority. In the Federal Senate, the announcement can last up to five minutes and may occur at any time during the session, except during the Order of Business. In the sessions of the National Congress, it may last up to five minutes.

- RCCN, article 6; RICD, articles 66, paragraph 1, and 89; RISF, article 14, II, “a”.
- *General Concept:* [Speech](#).
- *Translation:* Comunicação de Liderança (Portuguese); Comunicación del Portavoz (Spanish).

Leadership

Group of a leader and vice-leaders elected to conduct parliamentary groups, be they partisans, parliamentary blocs, of the Majority or of the Minority. The President of the Republic appoints the leadership of the Government.

- RICD, article 9; RISF, articles 61 to 66-A.
- *See also:* [Leadership Agreement](#), [Parliamentary Group](#), [Parliamentary Bloc](#), [College of Leaders](#), [Leader](#), [Parliamentary Majority](#) and [Parliamentary Minority](#).
- *Translation:* Liderança (Portuguese); Liderazgo (Spanish).

Leadership Agreement

Agreement between the leaders of parliamentary groups and blocs to address outstanding issues.

- RICD, article 150, sole paragraph; RISF, article 412, III.
- *See also:* [Parliamentary Group](#), [Parliamentary Bloc](#) and [Leadership](#).
- *Translation:* Acordo de Lideranças (Portuguese); Acuerdo entre Portavoces (Spanish).

Leadership Vote

In the symbolic voting process, the vote of the leaders represents that of their party members present at the session. In the nominal voting process, leaders vote first, so that other legislators know the vote of their party leaders. Other legislators vote after the vote of the leaders.

- RCCN, article 45; RISF, articles 293, II, and 294, III.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Translation:* Voto de Liderança (Portuguese); Voto del Portavoz (Spanish).

Legal Norm

Manifestation of authority that expresses obligatory precept imposed or recognized as such by the State, designed to regulate juridical relations between persons and between persons and the State.

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- *Specific Concepts:* [Regulatory Act](#), [Constitution](#), [Code of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum](#), [Legislative Decree](#), [Constitutional Amendment](#), [Supplementary Law \(LC\)](#), [Delegated Law](#), [Ordinary Law](#), [Provisional Presidential Decree \(MPV\)](#), [Standing Rules](#) and [Resolution](#).
 - *Translation:* Norma Jurídica (Portuguese); Norma Jurídica (Spanish).

Legality

Compliance with the law. One of the aspects analyzed in admissibility.

- *See also:* [Constitutionality](#) and [Juridicity](#).
- *Translation:* Legalidade (Portuguese); Legalidad (Spanish).

Legislative Chamber

The Legislative House of the Federal District, whose members are elected by the people. It is responsible for drafting, debating and passing legal norms of its competent jurisdiction.

- CF, article 32.
- *General Concept:* [Legislative House <as to federative level>](#).
- *Translation:* Câmara Legislativa (Portuguese); Asamblea Legislativa del Distrito Federal (Spanish).

Legislative Decree

Type of normative instrument that addresses matters of the exclusive competent jurisdiction of the Legislative Branch. By means of legislative decrees, the National Congress examines the accounts of the President of the Republic; decides definitively on treaties, agreements or international acts; examines the concession or renewal of concession of radio and television broadcasters; authorizes the absence of the President of the Republic from the country for more than fifteen days; regulates the juridical relations arising from provisional presidential decrees not converted into law; chooses two-thirds of the Ministers of the Federal Court of Accounts (TCU); authorizes referenda and calls plebiscites; and suspends the regulatory acts of the Executive Branch that extrapolate its regulatory power.

- CF, articles 49 and 59, VI.
- *General Concept:* [Legal Norm](#).
- *See also:* [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#).
- *Translation:* Decreto Legislativo (Portuguese); Decreto Legislativo (Spanish).

Legislative Delegation

Act by which the National Congress delegates to the President of the Republic, at his or her request, the power to issue delegated laws.

- CF, article 68; RCCN, article 116 et seq; RICD, article 24, XII.

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- *See also:* [Delegated Law](#).
 - *Translation:* Delegação Legislativa (Portuguese); Delegación Legislativa (Spanish).

Legislative House

Chamber or assembly of the Legislative Branch at each political and administrative level (federal, state, district and municipal).

- *Specific Concepts:* [Legislative House <as to federative level>](#) and [Legislative House <as to bicameralism phase>](#).
- *Translation:* Casa Legislativa (Portuguese); Cámara Legislativa (Spanish).

Legislative House <as to bicameralism phase>

- *General Concept:* [Legislative House](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Initiating House](#) and [Revising House](#).
- *Translation:* Casa Legislativa <quanto à fase no bicameralismo> (Portuguese); Cámara Legislativa <en cuanto a la fase en el bicameralismo> (Spanish).

Legislative House <as to federative level>

- *General Concept:* [Legislative House](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [State Legislative Assembly](#), [Legislative Chamber](#), [City Council](#), [Chamber of Deputies \(CD\)](#) and [Federal Senate \(SF\)](#).
- *Translation:* Casa Legislativa <quanto à esfera federativa> (Portuguese); Cámara Legislativa <en cuanto al ámbito de la Federación> (Spanish).

Legislative Idea

Suggestion offered by a citizen registered in the e-Citizenship Website for the creation, modification or extinction of a legal norm. It is submitted to the possibility of support of other citizens for four months. This is the deadline for obtaining twenty thousand individual votes and the consequent conversion into a Legislative Suggestion, which is then analyzed by the CDH.

- RSF 19/2015.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Translation:* Ideia Legislativa (Portuguese); Idea Legislativa (Spanish).

Legislative Process

Sequence of procedural acts subordinated to the formalities provided for in the Federal Constitution and in the Standing Rules of the Legislative Houses and of the National Congress to carry out the typical activities of the Legislative Branch: drafting of legal norms and oversight of the public administration.

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- CF, articles 59-69.
 - *Translation*: Processo Legislativo (Portuguese); Procedimiento Legislativo (Spanish).

Legislative Session

Period of parliamentary work.

- *Specific Concepts*: [Extraordinary Legislative Session](#) and [Ordinary Legislative Session](#).
- *See also*: [Congress](#).
- *Translation*: Sessão Legislativa (Portuguese); Sesión Legislativa (Spanish).

Legislative Suggestion

Form of participation of civil society in the legislative process by submitting a draft legislative proposal. In the Chamber of Deputies, it may be submitted by an association, a class body, a trade union or an organized entity through a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Participatory Legislation. If it receives a favorable advisory opinion from said Committee, it will be converted into a legislative proposal of the Committee on Participatory Legislation itself. In the Federal Senate, in addition to the above-mentioned entities, the Young Senator program or any citizen may submit a draft legislative proposal. The citizen's proposal must be forwarded through the e-Citizenship website and must have obtained more than 20,000 individual votes over 4 months. Legislative suggestions are considered by the Committee on Human Rights and Participatory Legislation (CDH).

- RICD, articles 32, XII, "a"; RISF, article 102-E; RSF 42/2010, article 20, sole paragraph; RSF 19/2015, article 6, sole paragraph.
- *See also*: [Popular Initiative](#).
- *Translation*: Sugerência Legislativa (Portuguese); Sugerencia Legislativa Popular (Spanish).

Legislator

Member of Parliament who, in the National Congress, corresponds to a Federal Deputy or to a Senator of the Republic. "Parlamentar" is also used to describe that which belongs to or is related to the Parliament, such as "recesso parlamentar" (parliamentary recess).

- *Specific Concepts*: [Federal Deputy](#) and [Senator](#).
- *Translation*: Parlamentar (Portuguese); Parlamentario (Spanish).

Long Address

Phase of the plenary session in the Chamber of Deputies with non-extendable duration of fifty minutes that follows the Short Address. It is intended for speeches of twenty-five minutes each, including interruptions, of previously enrolled legislators.

- RICD, articles 66, II, and 87.

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- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
 - *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Period of Address](#).
 - *Part of:* [Ordinary Session \[CD\]](#).
 - *Translation:* Grande Expediente (Portuguese); Gran Turno de Palabra (Spanish).

Magna Carta

See [Constitution](#).

Matter

Subject matter under examination or speech.

- *Translation:* Matéria (Portuguese); Materia (Spanish).

Meeting

Event in which legislators meet as a collegiate body for debate or deliberation of matters in the Committees. In the Federal Senate, meetings are also events intended only to clear the agenda, when the plenary was unable to hold a session due to a lack of quorum or to force majeure.

- RICD, article 46; RISF, articles 106, 107, 155, paragraph 2, coupled with article 154, paragraph 6, I and IV.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Meeting <as to purpose>](#), [Meeting <as to the periodicity>](#) and [Meeting <as to publicity>](#).
- *See also:* [Opening of a Meeting](#).
- *Translation:* Reunião (Portuguese); Reunión (Spanish).

Meeting <as to publicity>

- *General Concept:* [Meeting](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Public Meeting](#), [Restricted Meeting](#) and [Secret Meeting](#).
- *Translation:* Reunião <quanto à publicidade> (Portuguese); Reunión <en cuanto a la publicidad> (Spanish).

Meeting <as to purpose>

- *General Concept:* [Meeting](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Public Hearing](#), [Deliberative Meeting](#) and [Installation Meeting](#).
- *Translation:* Reunião <quanto à finalidade> (Portuguese); Reunión <en cuanto a la finalidad> (Spanish).

Meeting <as to the periodicity>

- *General Concept:* [Meeting](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Extraordinary Meeting](#) and [Ordinary Meeting](#).

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- *Translation:* Reunião <quanto à periodicidade> (Portuguese); Reunión <en cuanto a la periodicidad> (Spanish).

Meeting Opening Quorum

Minimum number of legislators required to start a meeting. The Chamber of Deputies requires the presence of half its members for the deliberation of a matter. The Federal Senate demands one fifth of its members. The National Congress requires one third of members (as a general rule) or one third of the members of each House in the case of committees on provisional presidential decrees.

- RCCN, article 12; RCN 1/2002, article 4, paragraph 6; RICD, article 50; RISF, article 108.
- *General Concept:* [Quorum](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Quorum for Opening a Public Hearing](#).
- *See also:* [Opening of a Meeting](#).
- *Translation:* Quórum de Abertura de Reunião (Portuguese); Cuórum de Apertura de la Reunión (Spanish).

Message

Official communication among the heads of Government Branches.

- *Specific Concept:* [Message from the Executive Branch](#).
- *Translation:* Mensagem (Portuguese); Comunicaciones (Spanish).

Message from the Executive Branch

Official communication from the head of the Executive Branch to the other Branches. When addressed to the Legislative Branch, it is used, among other purposes, to inform about a fact that is relevant for the public administration; submit the government plan at the opening of a legislative session; submit to the National Congress matters that depend on the deliberation of their Houses; submit vetoes.

- *General Concept:* [Message](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Veto Message](#).
- *Translation:* Mensagem do Poder Executivo (Portuguese); Comunicaciones del Poder Ejecutivo (Spanish).

Minutes

Official notes taken to record the events usually of a committee meeting or of a plenary session.

- RCCN, article 30, paragraph 1; RICD, articles 62, sole paragraph, I and VIII, 63 and 97; RISF, articles 114, sole paragraph, I, 115, 201 to 208.
- *Translation:* Ata (Portuguese); Acta (Spanish).

Modifying Amendment

Amendment for specific changes in the text of a proposal while preserving its general content.

- RICD, article 118, paragraph 5; RISF, article 246, II.
- *General Concept:* [Amendment](#).
- *See also:* [Amendment of the Wording](#).
- *Translation:* Emenda Modificativa (Portuguese); Enmienda Modificativa (Spanish).

Mootness

Effect from the loss of possibility for a proposal to be examined, due to any situation foreseen in the Standing Rules, such as a previous decision and the loss of opportunity. A declaration of mootness results in the dismissal of the matter without deliberation.

- RCCN, article 49, paragraph 6; RICD, articles 163 and 164; RISF, article 334.
- *See also:* [Dismissal of a Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Prejudicialidade (Portuguese); Perjudicialidad (Spanish).

Motion

In the legislative tradition, it is a request whereby a Legislative House expresses an opinion about a fact that gives rise to repudiation, praise, support, distrust, solidarity and joy, among others.

- RICD, article 117, XVIII and XIX and paragraphs 3 and 4; RISF, articles 218 and 222.
- *Translation:* Moção (Portuguese); Moción (Spanish).

MPV

See [Provisional Presidential Decree \(MPV\)](#).

National Congress (CN)

According to the constitution, the institution that exercises the Legislative Power at the federal level. It is composed of the Chamber of Deputies and the Federal Senate. The Houses of the National Congress hold joint sessions and meetings for specific agendas under the Federal Constitution and the Joint Standing Rules.

- CF, articles 44 to 46.
- *Translation:* Congresso Nacional (CN) (Portuguese); Congreso Nacional (CN) (Spanish).

Nominal Voting

Open voting process in which voters and their respective votes can be identified. It can occur through individual call of a legislator or by electronic system.

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- RCCN, article 46; RICD, articles 186 and 187; RISF, article 294.
 - *General Concept:* [Open Voting](#).
 - *Translation:* Votação Nominal (Portuguese); Votación Nominal (Spanish).

Non-Deliberative Session

Plenary session with no Agenda or Order of Business for debate or voting of proposals.

- RICD, article 65, III; RISF, article 154, II.
- *General Concept:* [Session <as to nature>](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão não Deliberativa (Portuguese); Sesión no Deliberativa (Spanish).

Notice

Official communication used by a Cabinet Minister or equivalent authority to deal with official matters with other bodies of the Public Administration, including the Legislative Houses.

- *Translation:* Aviso (Portuguese); Aviso (Spanish).

Objection to a Proposal

See [Return of a Proposal](#).

Office of the Parliamentary Attorney

Body responsible for the defense of the institution, its bodies and members, when affected in their honor or image before society, by virtue of the exercise of the parliamentary term of office or its institutional duties.

- RICD, article 21; RSF 40/1995.
- *Translation:* Procuradoria Parlamentar (Portuguese); Fiscalía Parlamentaria (Spanish).

Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman

Body responsible for receiving, examining and forwarding to the competent bodies the complaints, representations and suggestions of individuals or legal entities regarding violations or any form of discrimination that violates fundamental rights and freedoms; illegal acts or abuse of power; poor quality of the legislative and administrative services of a House.

- RICD, article 21-A; Act of the Senate Federal Bureau 1/2011.
- *Translation:* Ouvidoria Parlamentar (Portuguese); Oficina del Defensor del Pueblo (Spanish).

Official Publication

Written statement, in printed or digital media, resulting from an act of publication of a competent authority.

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- *Specific Concepts:* [Annals of the National Constituent Assembly](#), [Annals of the Chamber of Deputies](#), [Annals of the Federal Senate](#), [Separate, Administrative Bulletin](#), [Journal of the Chamber of Deputies \(DCD\)](#), [Journal of the National Congress \(DCN\)](#) and [Journal of the Federal Senate \(DSF\)](#).
 - *See also:* [Publication](#).
 - *Translation:* [Publicação Oficial](#) (Portuguese); [Publicación Oficial](#) (Spanish).

Open Voting

Voting method in which legislators publicly express their vote. It can occur either by symbolic or by nominal process.

- RICD, article 184; RISF, articles 293 and 294.
- *General Concept:* [Voting <as to publicity>](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Nominal Voting](#) and [Symbolic Voting](#).
- *See also:* [Voting Method](#).
- *Translation:* [Votação Ostensiva](#) (Portuguese); [Votación Pública](#) (Spanish).

Opening of a Legislative Session

See [Commencement of the Legislative Session](#).

Opening of a Meeting

Act of the committee presiding officer who initiates a committee meeting.

- RCCN, article 12; RICD, article 50; RISF, article 108.
- *See also:* [Meeting Opening Quorum](#) and [Meeting](#).
- *Translation:* [Abertura de Reunião](#) (Portuguese); [Apertura de la Reunión](#) (Spanish).

Opening of a Session

Act of the presiding officer declaring open the proceedings of the plenary session.

- RCCN, article 29; RICD, article 79, paragraph 2; RISF, article 155.
- *See also:* [Closure of a Session](#), [Quorum for Opening a Session](#) and [Session](#).
- *Translation:* [Abertura de Sessão](#) (Portuguese); [Apertura de la Sesión](#) (Spanish).

Opposition

Group of parties and parliamentary blocs politically opposed to the Government, aligning, in general, with the Minority.

- *See also:* [Parliamentary Minority](#).

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- *Translation:* Oposição (Portuguese); Oposición (Spanish).

Order

Act by which the President of a Legislative House or one of its collegiate bodies decides on matters within its competent jurisdiction, as well as determines measures to other legislative or administrative bodies.

- *Specific Concept:* [Assignment](#).
- *Translation:* Despacho (Portuguese); Despacho (Spanish).

Order of Business

Phase of the session in which the matters in the agenda are discussed and voted on. In the Chamber of Deputies, committee meetings also have an Order of Business. In the Federal Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, during of the Order of Business of the respective Legislative House or of the National Congress, the operation of any standing or temporary committee is prohibited. In the Federal Senate, the prohibition of holding meetings during the Order of Business of an extraordinary session does not apply.

- RCCN, article 32; RICD, articles 46, paragraph 1, 66, III, 67 and 82; RISF, article 107, sole paragraph.
- *Part of:* [Ordinary Session \[CD\]](#) and [Ordinary Session \[SF\]](#).
- *See also:* [Separate of the Order of Business](#), [Inversion of the Agenda](#) and [Removal from the Agenda](#).
- *Translation:* Ordem do Dia (Portuguese); Período del Orden del Día (Spanish).

Ordinary Law

Normative instrument that deals with any matter pertinent to the legislative jurisdiction of the federative entity that publishes it, provided it is not reserved for another instrument. It is examined in an ordinary process and needs a simple majority of votes for passing.

- CF, article 61.
- *General Concept:* [Legal Norm](#).
- *See also:* [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#).
- *Translation:* Lei Ordinária (Portuguese); Ley Ordinaria (Spanish).

Ordinary Legislative Procedure

The most common rite for the processing of proposals. It complies with all formalities, requirements and interstices provided for in the Standing Rules of the Legislative House.

- RICD, articles 52, III, e 151, III; RISF, articles 251 ff.
- *See also:* [Processing](#).
- *Translation:* Regime de Tramitação Ordinária (Portuguese); Procedimiento de Tramitación Ordinaria (Spanish).

Ordinary Legislative Session

Period corresponding to one year of parliamentary work, starting on February 2 and ending on December 22, with a parliamentary recess from July 18 to 31. The session will be interrupted only after adoption of the bill of budgetary directives (LDO) by the National Congress.

- CF, article 57; RICD, article 2, I; RISF, article 2, I.
- *General Concept:* [Legislative Session](#).
- *See also:* [Period of Operation of the National Congress](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão Legislativa Ordinária (Portuguese); Sesión Legislativa Ordinaria (Spanish).

Ordinary Meeting

Committee meeting on pre-defined days and times. It may not occur during the Order of Business of an ordinary session, in the case of the Senate; or of an ordinary or extraordinary session, in the case of the Chamber of Deputies or of the National Congress.

- RICD, article 46, head of the article; RISF, articles 107, I, sole paragraph, and 154, paragraph 6, III.
- *General Concept:* [Meeting <as to the periodicity>](#).
- *Translation:* Reunião Ordinária (Portuguese); Reunión Ordinaria (Spanish).

Ordinary Session [CD]

Deliberative plenary session held once a day, from Tuesday to Thursday, starting at two p. m. The ordinary session lasts five hours and consists of Short Address, Long Address, Order of Business and Parliamentary Communications.

- RICD, articles 65, II, “a”, e 66, I to IV.
- *General Concept:* [Deliberative Session](#).
- *It has parts:* [Parliamentarian Communications](#), [Long Address](#), [Order of Business](#) and [Short Address](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão Ordinária [CD] (Portuguese); Sesión Ordinaria [CD] (Spanish).

Ordinary Session [SF]

Plenary session held once a day on weekdays, from Monday to Friday. It may be deliberative or non-deliberative.

- RISF, article 154.
- *General Concept:* [Deliberative Session](#).
- *It has parts:* [Order of Business](#) and [Period of Address](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão Ordinária [SF] (Portuguese); Sesión Ordinaria [SF] (Spanish).

Panel

Fractional body of a standing committee of the Chamber of Deputies, with no decision-making power, established within the scope of the thematic committee, provided that the committee does not have a standing subcommittee. Each committee may be divided into two panels.

- RICD, articles 30 and 31.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Translation*: Turma (Portuguese); Junta (Spanish).

Parliament

Chamber or assembly of chambers composed of representatives elected to exercise the Legislative Branch (federal, state, district or municipal). In Brazil, the federal Parliament is the National Congress, constituted by the Chamber of Deputies and the Federal Senate.

- *Translation*: Parlamento (Portuguese); Parlamento (Spanish).

Parliamentarian Communications

Speeches of no more than ten minutes by legislators appointed by the leaders for this purpose. They take place at the end of the regular sessions, if there is time before closure.

- RICD, article 90.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Part of*: [Ordinary Session \[CD\]](#).
- *See also*: [Short Address](#).
- *Translation*: Comunicações Parlamentares (Portuguese); Comunicación Parlamentaria (Spanish).

Parliamentary Activity

See [Parliamentary Participation](#).

Parliamentary Bloc

Alliance of parliamentary representations of two or more political parties for joint action in a Legislative House as a single group, under common leadership.

- RICD, article 12; RISE, article 61.
- *See also*: [Leadership Agreement](#), [Parliamentary Group](#), [College of Leaders](#), [Leadership](#), [Leader](#) and [Directions for a Parliamentary Group](#).
- *Translation*: Bloco Parlamentar (Portuguese); Fracción Parlamentaria (Spanish).

Parliamentary Committee of Investigation (CPI)

Temporary committee created at the request of at least one-third of the total number of members of a Legislative House, to investigate a fact for a defined period, with powers of judicial authorities, in addition to other powers provided for by the House's Standing Rules.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 3; RICD, articles 35 to 37; RISF, articles 145 to 153.
- *General Concept:* [Temporary Committee](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Joint Parliamentary Committee of Investigation \(CPMI\)](#).
- *See also:* [Summons of an Authority](#) and [Detailed Report](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Parlamentar de Inquérito (CPI) (Portuguese); Comisión Parlamentaria de Investigación (CPI) (Spanish).

Parliamentary Decorum

Principles and rules of conduct that guide the behavior of legislators during their term in office and that establish disciplinary measures in case of noncompliance.

- CF, article 55, § 1º; RICD, article 244; RSF 20/1993.
- *See also:* [Censure of a Legislator](#), [Council of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum](#) and [Code of Ethics and Parliamentary Decorum](#).
- *Translation:* Decoro Parlamentar (Portuguese); Decoro Parlamentario (Spanish).

Parliamentary Disciplinary Board

Body responsible for promoting the maintenance of parliamentary decorum, order and discipline within each Legislative House. It also investigates reports of parliamentary misconduct.

- RICD, article 21-F; RSF 17/1993, article 2.
- *Translation:* Corregedoria Parlamentar (Portuguese); Oficina Parlamentaria de Asuntos Internos (Spanish).

Parliamentary Group

Organized grouping of legislators, which may be provided for in the Standing Rules or based on agendas or interests. For example, the group of legislators from a certain region (the Northeast group) or those who represent certain interests (ruralist and evangelical groups).

- RICD, article 27.
- *Specific Concepts:* [State Parliamentary Group](#) and [Party Parliamentary Group](#).
- *See also:* [Leadership Agreement](#), [Parliamentary Bloc](#), [Leadership](#) and [Leader](#).
- *Translation:* Bancada Parlamentar (Portuguese); Grupo Parlamentario (Spanish).

Parliamentary Leave

Temporary absence of the legislator for reasons expressly defined in the Federal Constitution and in the Standing Rules of the Chamber of Deputies and of the Federal Senate. It may or may not entail calling of the substitute.

- CF, article 56, paragraph 1; RICD, article 235; RISF, articles 43 to 44-A.
- *Translation*: Licença Parlamentar (Portuguese); Licencia Parlamentaria (Spanish).

Parliamentary Majority

The Majority is a political party or parliamentary bloc composed of an absolute majority of the members of the Legislative House. If no representation reaches an absolute majority, the party or parliamentary bloc with the largest number of representatives takes on the procedural and constitutional functions of the Majority.

- RICD, article 13; RISF, article 65, paragraph 1.
- *See also*: [College of Leaders](#), [Leadership](#) and [Parliamentary Minority](#).
- *Translation*: Maioria Parlamentar (Portuguese); Mayoría Parlamentaria (Spanish).

Parliamentary Minority

Largest party or parliamentary bloc that opposes the parliamentary majority.

- RICD, article 13; RISF, article 65, paragraph 2.
- *See also*: [College of Leaders](#), [Leadership](#), [Parliamentary Majority](#) and [Opposition](#).
- *Translation*: Minoria Parlamentar (Portuguese); Minoría Parlamentaria (Spanish).

Parliamentary Name

Name used by legislators upon taking office. It usually consists of two elements: one first and one second name; two last names or two first names.

- RICD, article 3, paragraph 1; RISF, article 7.
- *Translation*: Nome Parlamentar (Portuguese); Nombre Parlamentario (Spanish).

Parliamentary Participation

Performance of activities related to the exercise of the parliamentary term of office.

- *Synonymous*: Parliamentary Activity.
- *Translation*: Atuação Parlamentar (Portuguese); Actuación Parlamentaria (Spanish).

Parliamentary Pronouncement

See [Parliamentary Speech](#).

Parliamentary Recess

Suspension of parliamentary activities of the National Congress. If there is no call for extraordinary legislative sessions, the recess occurs from July 18 to 31 and from December 23 to February 1. The July recess can only occur after the Congress passes the bill of budgetary directives (LDO). To ensure the prerogatives of the Legislative, a Representative Committee works during the recess. This committee has certain powers, such as passing additional credits requested by the Government and overseeing the Executive.

- CF, article 57.
- *See also:* [Representative Committee](#), [Period of Operation of the National Congress](#) and [Extraordinary Legislative Session](#).
- *Translation:* Recesso Parlamentar (Portuguese); Recesso del Congreso (Spanish).

Parliamentary Speech

Public speech by a legislator from the tribune of a Legislative House on a specific subject.

- *General Concept:* [Speech](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Speech Considered as Read](#) and [Speech Forwarded for Publication](#).
- *Synonymous:* Parliamentary Pronouncement.
- *See also:* [Filibuster](#).
- *Translation:* Discurso Parlamentar (Portuguese); Discurso Parlamentario (Spanish).

Parliamentary Term of Office

Set of political powers delegated to a legislator, by means of an election, to represent, during a given period of time, the people, if a Federal Deputy, or a unit of the Federation, if a Senator. In Brazil, the term in office of a Federal Deputy is of four years, which corresponds to one congress. The term in office of a Senator is of eight years.

- CF, articles 44-46.
- *See also:* [Removal from Office](#).
- *Translation:* Mandato Parlamentar (Portuguese); Mandato Parlamentario (Spanish).

Partial Rapporteur

Legislator appointed to draft a report on part of a Proposal.

- RICD, articles 57, II, and 205, paragraph 5; RISF, articles 374 ff.
- *General Concept:* [Rapporteur](#) <as to the scope>.
- *Translation:* Relator-Parcial (Portuguese); Ponente Parcial (Spanish).

Party Parliamentary Group

Organized grouping of legislators of the same party representation. It is up to the party group to indicate its leadership for the purposes of the Standing Rules.

- RICD, article 27; RISF, article 65, paragraph 6.
- *General Concept:* [Parliamentary Group](#).
- *See also:* [Leader](#).
- *Translation:* Bancada Parlamentar de Partido (Portuguese); Grupo Parlamentario de Partido (Spanish).

Party Proportionality [Principle]

See [Principle of Party Proportionality](#).

Party Representative

Legislator who performs some of the functions of a party leader when the party has less than one hundredth of the number of members of the Chamber of Deputies.

- RICD, article 9, paragraph 4.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *See also:* [Political Party](#).
- *Translation:* Representante de Partido (Portuguese); Representante del Partido (Spanish).

PDC

See [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#).

PDL

See [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#).

PDN

See [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#).

PDS

See [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#).

PEC

See [Constitutional Amendment Bill \(PEC\)](#).

Period of Address

First part of the deliberative sessions of the Federal Senate. In the case of non-deliberative sessions, it comprises the entire duration of the session. This period is for the submission of proposals, communications to the Directing Board, reading of letters and other documents received by the House, speeches and urgent communications. This time is also for condolences, celebrations and tributes.

- RISF, articles 156 to 161.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Equivalent terms in the other House*: [Long Address](#) and [Short Address](#).
- *Part of*: [Ordinary Session \[SF\]](#).
- *Translation*: Período do Expediente (Portuguese); Período del Turno de Palabra (Spanish).

Period of Operation of the National Congress

Ordinary period of activities of the National Congress, its Houses and its committees, from February 2 to July 17 and from August 1 to December 22.

- CF, article 57; RICD, article 2; RISF, article 2, I.
- *See also*: [Call for Extraordinary Legislative Sessions](#), [Parliamentary Recess](#), [Extraordinary Legislative Session](#) and [Ordinary Legislative Session](#).
- *Translation*: Período de Funcionamento do Congresso Nacional (Portuguese); Período de Funcionamiento del Congreso Nacional (Spanish).

PFC

See [Proposal of Oversight and Control \(PFC\) \[CD\]](#).

PFS

See [Proposal of Oversight and Control \(PFS\) \[SF\]](#).

PL

See [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#).

PLC

See [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#).

Plenary

Highest decision-making body of a Legislative House, composed of all its members. It also refers to the place where legislators hold the sessions.

- *Translation:* Plenário (Portuguese); Pleno (Spanish).

PLP

See [Bill of Supplementary Law \(PLP\)](#).

PLS

See [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#).

PLV

See [Bill of Conversion \(PLV\)](#).

Point of Order

With this act, a legislator raises doubts about the interpretation of the Standing Rules, in its exclusive implementation or in relation to the Federal Constitution.

- RCCN, article 131; RICD, articles 57, XXI, and 95; RISF, article 403.
- See also: [Suspensive Appeal against a Decision of the President on a Point of Order](#), [By the Order](#) and [Appeal in a Point of Order](#).
- *Translation:* Questão de Ordem (Portuguese); Cuestión de Orden (Spanish).

Political Party

Organization of people with common interests or ideologies, who associate to take the power and implement a government program. It has legal personality under private law and enjoys autonomy and freedom with respect to its creation, organization and operation, in accordance with constitutional principles and precepts.

- CF, article 17.
- See also: [Party Representative](#).
- *Translation:* Partido Político (Portuguese); Partido Político (Spanish).

Popular Initiative

Initiative of a bill of law, at the federal level, submitted by a portion of Brazilian citizens. For its exercise, the subscription of a minimum of one percent of the national electorate is required, distributed over at least five states, with no less than three-tenths of a percent of the electorate in each state.

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- CF, article 61, paragraph 2; RICD, article 252.
 - *General Concept:* [Initiative](#).
 - *See also:* [Author](#), [Bill of Popular Initiative](#) and [Legislative Suggestion](#).
 - *Translation:* Iniciativa Popular (Portuguese); Iniciativa Popular (Spanish).

Postponement of Discussion

Postponement of a proposal examination to another session or meeting.

- RCCN, article 40; RICD, article 177; RISF, article 279.
- *See also:* [Debate of a Proposal](#), [Filibuster](#) and [Removal from the Agenda](#).
- *Translation:* Adiamento de Discussão (Portuguese); Aplazamiento del Debate (Spanish).

Postponement of Voting

Postponement of voting to another session or meeting.

- RCCN, article 40; RICD, article 193; RISF, article 315.
- *See also:* [Filibuster](#), [Removal from the Agenda](#) and [Voting](#).
- *Translation:* Adiamento de Votação (Portuguese); Aplazamiento de la Votación (Spanish).

PRC

See [Bill of Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies \(PRC\)](#).

Preference

Precedence that a proposal has over others to be discussed or voted on, due to the relevance or urgency of the matter, its stage of processing or a request for preference passed by the Plenary.

- RCCN, article 49, paragraph 5; RICD, articles 159 and 160; RISF, article 311.
- *Translation:* Preferência (Portuguese); Preferencia (Spanish).

Preferential Separate Voting

Separate Voting of a bill or of a substitute bill when preference is given to one of them or to an attached proposal. The bill or substitute bill whose preference is to be changed undergoes separate voting.

- RICD, article 161, IV.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting <as to voting order>](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque de Preferência (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada de Preferencia (Spanish).

Preliminary Examination

Examination phase of a proposal in the Plenary, in which only the aspects of admissibility of a proposal that are juridical (constitutionality and juridicity) or financial-budgetary are examined. It occurs only if an appeal against a committee's terminative advisory opinion is granted.

- RICD, articles 54, 120, I, 139, II, “b” and “c”, 144, 145, 146 and 147.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept*: [Appreciation](#).
- *See also*: [Admissibility Report](#).
- *Translation*: Apreciação Preliminar (Portuguese); Análisis Preliminar (Spanish).

Preparatory Meeting

See [Preparatory Session and Election of the Board](#).

Preparatory Session and Election of the Board

Plenary session preceding the commencement of work in the first and third ordinary legislative sessions of each congress. The first ordinary legislative session is for the inauguration of legislators and for the election of the members of the Directing Board; the third ordinary legislative session is for the election of the members of the Directing Board for the second biennium of the congress.

- CF, article 57, paragraph 4; RICD, articles 4 to 6; RISF, article 3.
- *General Concept*: [Session <as to purpose>](#).
- *Synonymous*: Preparatory Meeting.
- *Translation*: Sessão Preparatória e de Eleição da Mesa (Portuguese); Junta Preparatoria y Elección de la Mesa (Spanish).

Presidential Veto

Instrument used by the President of the Republic to refuse sanctioning a bill, in whole or in part, under the argument of unconstitutionality or opposition to the public interest. The veto may be maintained or rejected by the National Congress, under the terms of the Joint Standing Rules.

- CF, article 66; RCCN, article 104-A et seq.
- *See also*: [Veto Message](#) and [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#).
- *Translation*: Veto Presidencial (Portuguese); Veto Presidencial (Spanish).

Prevailing Advisory Opinion

Advisory Opinion that mirrors the predominant view of the members of a committee when it rejects the opinion of the original rapporteur.

- RICD, article 57, XII; RISF, articles 128 and 132, paragraph 5º.
- *General Concept*: [Advisory Opinion <as to result of the deliberation>](#).
- *See also*: [Advisory Opinion of the Rapporteur, Substitute Rapporteur and Report \[SF\]](#).
- *Translation*: Parecer Vencedor (Portuguese); Dictamen Ganador (Spanish).

Principle of Party Proportionality

Principle according to which the representation of political parties and parliamentary blocs in a Legislative House should be reproduced proportionately as far as possible in the composition of its Directing Board, of the Committees and of other fractional collegiate bodies.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 1; RCCN, article 10; RICD, articles 8, 21, paragraph 1, 25, paragraph 1, and 29, paragraph 2; RISF, article 59.
- *Synonymous*: Party Proportionality [Principle].
- *Translation*: Princípio da Proporcionalidade Partidária (Portuguese); Principio de la Proporcionalidad Partidaria (Spanish).

Priority

See [Priority Regime](#).

Priority Regime

Processing regime that waives procedural requirements for a proposal to be included into the Order of Business of the following session, right after fast-track proposals.

- RICD, articles 52, II, 151, II, and 158.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Synonymous*: Priority.
- *Translation*: Regime de Prioridade (Portuguese); Procedimiento Prioritario (Spanish).

PRN

See [Bill of Resolution of the National Congress \(PRN\)](#).

Procedural Fast Track

Expedited deliberation for some matters, such as danger to the national security or public calamity. To expedite the progress of a proposal, procedural formalities are waived, except for the quorum, advisory opinions and publications. The request to apply procedural fast track requires qualified authors, according to article 338 of the RISF. Some matters do not require a request to enter procedural fast track, according to article 353 of the RISF.

- RISF, articles 336 to 344, and 353.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *See also:* [Fast-track](#) and [Utmost Urgency](#).
- *Translation:* Urgência Regimental (Portuguese); Urgencia Reglamentaria (Spanish).

Procedural Number

See [Quorum for Opening a Session](#).

Processing

Course of a legislative proposal in accordance with the constitutional rules and those established in the Standing Rules.

- RICD, articles 131 to 136; RISF, articles 251 to 255.
- *See also:* [Ordinary Legislative Procedure](#).
- *Translation:* Tramitação (Portuguese); Tramitación (Spanish).

Proposal

Generic name of all matters submitted to the Chamber, the Senate or the National Congress.

- RICD, article 100; RISF, article 211.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>](#), [Proposition <as to matter>](#), [Ancillary Proposal](#), [Appeal \[CD\]](#) and [Request](#).
- *Synonymous:* Proposition.
- *See also:* [Draft Bill](#), [Support for a Proposal](#), [Submission of a Proposal](#), [Adoption of a Proposal](#), [Dismissal of a Proposal](#), [Retrieval of a Proposal](#), [Return of a Proposal](#), [Debate of a Proposal](#), [Rejection of a Proposal](#) and [Withdrawal of a Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Proposição (Portuguese); Proposición (Spanish).

Proposal <as to type of normative instrument>

- *General Concept:* [Proposal](#).

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- *Specific Concepts:* [Provisional Presidential Decree \(MPV\)](#), [Bill of Legislative Decree \(PDL\)](#), [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#), [Bill of Supplementary Law \(PLP\)](#), [Bill of the National Congress](#), [Bill of Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies \(PRC\)](#), [Bill of Resolution of the National Congress \(PRN\)](#), [Bill of Resolution of the Federal Senate \(PRS\)](#) *and* [Constitutional Amendment Bill \(PEC\)](#).
 - *Translation:* [Proposição <quanto à espécie normativa> \(Portuguese\)](#); [Proposición <en cuanto al tipo normativo> \(Spanish\)](#).

Proposal of Oversight and Control (PFC) [CD]

Legislative proposal to investigate irregularities in the public administration.

- RICD, articles 60 and 61.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Proposal of Oversight and Control \(PFS\) \[SF\]](#).
- *General Concept:* [Proposition <as to matter>](#).
- *Translation:* [Proposta de Fiscalização e Controle \(PFC\) \[CD\] \(Portuguese\)](#); [Propuesta de Fiscalización y Control \(PFC\) \[CD\] \(Spanish\)](#).

Proposal of Oversight and Control (PFS) [SF]

Matter for the oversight and control of the acts of the Executive Branch including those of the Indirect Administration.

- RISF, article 102-B.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Proposal of Oversight and Control \(PFC\) \[CD\]](#).
- *General Concept:* [Proposition <as to matter>](#).
- *Translation:* [Proposta de Fiscalização e Controle \(PFS\) \[SF\] \(Portuguese\)](#); [Propuesta de Fiscalización y Control \(PFS\) \[SF\] \(Spanish\)](#).

Proposition

See [Proposal](#).

Proposition <as to matter>

- *General Concept:* [Proposal](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Recommendation](#), [Committee Advisory Opinion Debated in the Plenary](#), [Bill of Consolidation](#), [Budget Bill](#), [Bill of Popular Initiative](#), [Proposal of Oversight and Control \(PFC\) \[CD\]](#) *and* [Proposal of Oversight and Control \(PFS\) \[SF\]](#).
- *Translation:* [Proposição <quanto à matéria> \(Portuguese\)](#); [Proposición <en cuanto al asunto> \(Spanish\)](#).

Provisional Presidential Decree (MPV)

Normative instrument of exclusive initiative of the President of the Republic, with force of law, used in case of urgency and relevance, effective since its publication. Its conversion into law depends on examination by the National Congress. If the National Congress does not examine the provisional presidential decree within the prescribed period, it loses its effects. The juridical relations established during its validity will be regulated by a Legislative Decree or, in its absence, will continue to be regulated by the provisional presidential decree.

- CF, article 62; RCN 1/2002.
- *General Concepts:* [Legal Norm](#) and [Proposal](#) <as to type of normative instrument>.
- *See also:* [Admissibility of a Provisional Presidential Decree](#), [Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree \(CMMPV\)](#), [Constitutional Requirements for a Provisional Presidential Decree](#) and [Bill of Conversion \(PLV\)](#).
- *Translation:* Medida Provisória (MPV) (Portuguese); Medida Provisional (MPV) (Spanish).

PRS

See [Bill of Resolution of the Federal Senate \(PRS\)](#).

Public Consultation

Opportunity, during the course of a proposal, for citizens to have a say on its relevance. In the Chamber of Deputies, citizens use the e-Democracy website to express opinions. In the Federal Senate, they use the e-Citizenship website.

- RICD, article 255 et seq; RSF 26/2013 and 19/2015.
- *Translation:* Consulta Pública (Portuguese); Consulta Pública (Spanish).

Public Hearing

Meeting held by a collegiate body with representatives of the civil society to discuss pending legislative matters or to debate issues of relevant public interest.

- RCN 1/2006; RICD, articles 21-A, VII, 255 to 258; RISF, article 93.
- *General Concept:* [Meeting](#) <as to purpose>.
- *See also:* [Quorum for Opening a Public Hearing](#).
- *Translation:* Audiência Pública (Portuguese); Audiencia Pública (Spanish).

Public Meeting

Committee meeting in which the presence of the public is allowed.

- RICD, article 48; RISF, article 110.
- *General Concept:* [Meeting](#) <as to publicity>.

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- *Translation:* Reunião Pública (Portuguese); Reunión Pública (Spanish).

Public Session

Every session is public unless declared secret or restricted. In addition to the legislators, substitutes, former legislators and staff on duty may be present in the plenary. The press and the public must stay in the place reserved for each. They must remain silent, without applauding or expressing disapproval of any kind.

- RICD, article 69 et seq; RISF, articles 155 and 182 to 184.
- *General Concept:* [Session <as to publicity>](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão Pública (Portuguese); Sesión Pública (Spanish).

Publication

Act publicizing the enactment of legislation to its addressees by means of the official press. It is a pre-condition for the effectiveness of a rule. It also applies to the publication of acts of the legislative process.

- RICD, articles 17, V, 98 and 107; RISF, articles 249 and 250.
- *See also:* [Official Publication](#).
- *Translation:* Publicação (Portuguese); Publicación (Spanish).

Qualified Quorum

Any quorum other than a simple majority.

- RICD, articles 7, 20-B, paragraph 3, 20-C, paragraph 3, 52, paragraph 5, 110, 117, § 4º, 120, II, “a”, 155, 183, paragraph 1, 202, paragraph 7, 217, § 1º, 218, § 9º, 233, 237, § 1º, 240, § 1º; RISF, article 288.
- *General Concept:* [Quorum](#).
- *Translation:* Quórum Qualificado (Portuguese); Cuórum Cualificado (Spanish).

Quorum

Minimum number of legislators required by the Federal Constitution or by the Standing Rules for the performance of certain acts.

- *Specific Concepts:* [Qualified Quorum](#), [Meeting Opening Quorum](#), [Quorum for Opening a Session](#), [Quorum for Adoption](#) and [Quorum for Deliberation](#).
- *See also:* [Filibuster](#).
- *Translation:* Quórum (Portuguese); Cuórum (Spanish).

Quorum for Adoption

Minimum number of votes required for a matter to be adopted.

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- *General Concept:* [Quorum](#).
 - *Translation:* Quórum de Aprovação (Portuguese); Cuórum de Aprobación (Spanish).

Quorum for Deliberation

Minimum number of legislators that must be present at a committee meeting or at a Plenary session for deliberation on any matter.

- CF, article 47; RICD, article 183; RISE, article 288.
- *General Concept:* [Quorum](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Absolute Majority](#) and [Simple Majority](#).
- *Synonymous:* Quorum for Voting.
- *Translation:* Quórum de Deliberação (Portuguese); Cuórum de Deliberación (Spanish).

Quorum for Opening a Public Hearing

Minimum number of legislators required to start a public hearing. In the Chamber of Deputies, it can be any number. The Federal Senate requires at least two Senators.

- RICD, article 50; RISE, article 93, paragraph 3.
- *General Concept:* [Meeting Opening Quorum](#).
- *See also:* [Public Hearing](#).
- *Translation:* Quórum de Abertura de Audiência Pública (Portuguese); Cuórum de Apertura de Audiencia Pública (Spanish).

Quorum for Opening a Session

Minimum number of legislators required to start a session. The Chamber of Deputies requires one tenth of its members, discarding fractions. The Federal Senate requires one twentieth of its members. The National Congress demands one-sixth of the members of each House.

- RCCN, article 28; RICD, article 79, paragraph 2; RISE, article 155.
- *General Concept:* [Quorum](#).
- *Synonymous:* Procedural Number.
- *See also:* [Opening of a Session](#).
- *Translation:* Quórum de Abertura de Sessão (Portuguese); Cuórum de Apertura de la Sesión (Spanish).

Quorum for Voting

See [Quorum for Deliberation](#).

Rapporteur

Legislator designated to examine a legislative proposal or monitoring document on budget and financial implementation and fiscal management, in its form and content. He or she also prepares a report on these issues and recommends its adoption or rejection.

- RCN nº 1/2006, articles. 16 e 17; RICD, article 41, VI; RISF, articles 126 et seq.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Rapporteur <as to role>](#) and [Rapporteur <as to the scope>](#).
- *See also:* [Rapporteurship](#).
- *Translation:* Relator (Portuguese); Ponente (Spanish).

Rapporteur <as to role>

- *General Concept:* [Rapporteur](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Reviewing Rapporteur](#) and [Substitute Rapporteur](#).
- *Translation:* Relator <quanto ao papel> (Portuguese); Ponente <en cuanto al rol> (Spanish).

Rapporteur <as to the scope>

- *General Concept:* [Rapporteur](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [General Rapporteur](#) and [Partial Rapporteur](#).
- *Translation:* Relator <quanto à abrangência> (Portuguese); Ponente <en cuanto al abarcamiento> (Spanish).

Rapporteurship

Task assigned to a legislator, by the President of the Legislative House or of a Committee, to prepare an Advisory Opinion on the matter to be considered by the Plenary or by the Committee.

- RICD, article 41, IV, and 157, paragraph 2; RISF, articles 126 et seq.
- *See also:* [Rapporteur](#).
- *Translation:* Relatoria (Portuguese); Ponencia (Spanish).

RCCN

See [Joint Standing Rules of the National Congress \(RCCN\)](#).

RCD

See [Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies \(RCD\)](#).

RCN

See [Resolution of the National Congress \(RCN\)](#).

Recommendation

Type of proposal by which a legislator suggests to another Government Branch the application of a measure, the implementation of an administrative or management act, or the submission of a bill on the matter of its exclusive initiative. In the Chamber of Deputies, it can also be used to suggest the opinion of one or more committees about the drafting of a bill on a matter of the initiative of the Chamber. In the Federal Senate, it can also be used to suggest that the matter at hand be subject to a certain action or study by the competent House to clarify or draft a legislative proposal.

- RICD, article 113; RISF, article 224.
- *General Concept*: [Proposition <as to matter>](#).
- *Translation*: Indicação (Portuguese); Recomendación (Spanish).

Regulatory Act

Internal rule issued by a competent authority or collegiate body.

- *General Concept*: [Legal Norm](#).
- *Specific Concept*: [Act of the Board](#).
- *Translation*: Ato Normativo (Portuguese); Acto Normativo (Spanish).

Rejection of a Proposal

Fact resulting from voting against a matter, respecting the quorums necessary for deliberation in the collegiate.

- RICD, articles 17, I, “r”, 41, X, 182, and 185, head of the article; RISF, article 301.
- *See also*: [Adoption of a Proposal](#) and [Proposal](#).
- *Translation*: Rejeição de Proposição (Portuguese); Rechazo a la Proposición (Spanish).

Removal from Office

Termination of the parliamentary term of office applicable to legislators who incur in the situations provided for in the Federal Constitution.

- CF, article 55; RICD articles 21-F, sole paragraph, 32, IV, “p”, 109, III, “a”, 238, III; RISF, articles 32-35; RSF 20/1993.
- *Synonymous*: Impeachment.
- *See also*: [Parliamentary Term of Office](#).
- *Translation*: Perda de Mandato (Portuguese); Pérdida del Mandato (Spanish).

Removal from the Agenda

Exclusion of a proposal from the Order of Business.

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- RCCN, article 42; RICD, articles 83, sole paragraph, II, “c”, and 117, VI; RISF, article 235, III, “d”, 7.
 - *See also:* [Postponement of Discussion](#), [Postponement of Voting](#), [Order of Business](#) and [Agenda](#).
 - *Translation:* Retirada de Pauta (Portuguese); Retirada de la Agenda (Spanish).

Report [CD]

An integral part of an Advisory Opinion, the report is a detailed account of the matter under examination.

- RICD, article 129, I.
- *Translation:* Relatório [CD] (Portuguese); Informe [CD] (Spanish).

Report [SF]

A detailed account of the matter to be decided by the Committee in addition to the rapporteur's views as to its adoption or rejection. The report becomes an Advisory Opinion if adopted by the Committee.

- RISF, articles 130 and 132.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Advisory Opinion of the Rapporteur](#).
- *See also:* [Prevailing Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Translation:* Relatório [SF] (Portuguese); Informe [SF] (Spanish).

Representative Committee

Committee of Deputies and Senators chosen by their respective Houses to represent the National Congress during its recess. The Joint Standing Rules defines its duties.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 4; RCN 3/1990; RICD, article 224.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *General Concept:* [Committee](#).
- *See also:* [Parliamentary Recess](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Representativa (Portuguese); Diputación Permanente (Spanish).

Request

A type of proposal whereby a legislator makes a written or verbal request to be decided upon by the President of the House or chair of a Committee, by the Plenary or by the Committees.

- RICD, articles 114-117; RISF, articles 214 ff.
- *General Concept:* [Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Requerimento (Portuguese); Requerimiento (Spanish).

Request for Examination

Instrument of the Standing Rules that enables the legislator to suspend the consideration of proposals within the committees for a more detailed analysis of their content.

- RICD, article 57, XVI; RISF, article 132, paragraphs 1 to 4.
- *Synonymous*: Examination of Proposition.
- *Translation*: Pedido de Vista (Portuguese); Solicitación de Plazo Adicional (Spanish).

Resolution

Regulatory Act that addresses matters of the exclusive competent jurisdiction of the Legislative House, of a political, procedural, legislative or administrative nature.

- CF, article 59, VII.
- *General Concept*: [Legal Norm](#).
- *Specific Concepts*: [Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies \(RCD\)](#), [Resolution of the National Congress \(RCN\)](#) and [Resolution of the Federal Senate \(RSF\)](#).
- *See also*: [Bill of Resolution](#).
- *Translation*: Resolução (Portuguese); Resolución (Spanish).

Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies (RCD)

Regulatory Act that addresses matters of the exclusive competent jurisdiction of the Chamber of Deputies, of a political, procedural, legislative or administrative nature.

- *General Concept*: [Resolution](#).
- *See also*: [Bill of Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies \(PRC\)](#).
- *Translation*: Resolução da Câmara dos Deputados (RCD) (Portuguese); Resolución de la Cámara de Diputados (RCD) (Spanish).

Resolution of the Federal Senate (RSF)

Regulatory Act that addresses matters of the exclusive competent jurisdiction of the Federal Senate, of a political, procedural, legislative or administrative nature.

- *General Concept*: [Resolution](#).
- *See also*: [Bill of Resolution of the Federal Senate \(PRS\)](#).
- *Translation*: Resolução do Senado Federal (RSF) (Portuguese); Resolución del Senado Federal (RSF) (Spanish).

Resolution of the National Congress (RCN)

Regulatory Act that addresses matters of the exclusive competent jurisdiction of the National Congress, of a political, procedural, legislative or administrative nature.

- *General Concept:* [Resolution](#).
- *See also:* [Bill of Resolution of the National Congress \(PRN\)](#).
- *Translation:* Resolução do Congresso Nacional (RCN) (Portuguese); Resolución del Congreso Nacional (RCN) (Spanish).

Restricted Meeting

A meeting in which there is a matter to be discussed in the presence only of legislators, staff on duty and technicians, or authorities invited by the committee.

- RICD, article 48, paragraph 1.
- *General Concept:* [Meeting <as to publicity>](#).
- *Translation:* Reunião Reservada (Portuguese); Reunión Privada (Spanish).

Retrieval of a Proposal

Retrieval of a proposal from the archives of a Legislative House to resume its processing from the point where it stopped, in accordance with the hypotheses established in the Standing Rules of the Legislative House.

- RICD, article 105, sole paragraph; RISF, article 332, paragraphs 1 and 2.
- *See also:* [Dismissal of a Proposal](#) and [Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Desarquivamento de Proposição (Portuguese); Desarchivo de Proposición (Spanish).

Return of a Proposal

Prerogative of the President of a Legislative House to return to the author proposals that are unconstitutional; violate the Standing Rules; are not properly formalized; or deal with matters beyond the competent jurisdiction of the House.

- RICD, article 137, paragraph 1; RISF, article 48, XI.
- *Synonymous:* Objection to a Proposal.
- *See also:* [Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Devolução de Proposição (Portuguese); Devolución de Proposición (Spanish).

Reviewing Rapporteur

Legislator belonging to the House other than that of the rapporteur of the provisional presidential decree, acting as rapporteur in the House to which he or she belongs.

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- RCN 1/2002, article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4.
 - *Note*: in-house terminology of the National Congress.
 - *General Concept*: [Rapporteur <as to role>](#).
 - *Translation*: Relator Revisor (Portuguese); Ponente Revisor (Spanish).

Revising Chamber

See [Revising House](#).

Revising House

In bicameral legislative systems, the legislative House that examines or revises the proposals passed in the other House. In the Brazilian system, either House (Chamber of Deputies or Senate) can be a reviewer.

- CF, article 65.
- *General Concept*: [Legislative House <as to bicameralism phase>](#).
- *Synonymous*: Revising Chamber.
- *See also*: [Bicameral](#) and [Initiating House](#).
- *Translation*: Casa Revisora (Portuguese); Cámara Revisora (Spanish).

RICD

See [Standing Rules of the Chamber of Deputies \(RICD\)](#).

RISF

See [Standing Rules of the Federal Senate \(RISF\)](#).

Round of Debate and Voting

Phase of the legislative process to discuss and vote on a proposal. The examination of pending proposals generally occurs in a single round of debate and voting, with the exceptions foreseen in the Federal Constitution and in the respective Standing Rules.

- RCCN, article 36; RICD, article 148; RISF, articles 270 and 271.
- *Specific Concept*: [Additional Round of Debate](#).
- *Translation*: Turno de Discussão e Votação (Portuguese); Ronda de Debate y Votación (Spanish).

RSF

See [Resolution of the Federal Senate \(RSF\)](#).

Sanction

Consent by the head of the Executive Branch to bills of law adopted by the Legislative Branch.

- CF, article 66.
- *See also:* [Bill of Law \(PL\)](#) and [Enactment](#).
- *Translation:* Sanção (Portuguese); Sanción (Spanish).

Second Degree Amendment

Amendment to amend another amendment, submitted to a Committee.

- RICD, article 118, paragraph 7; RISF, article 231.
- *General Concept:* [Amendment](#).
- *Translation:* Subemenda (Portuguese); Enmienda de la Enmienda (Spanish).

Secret Meeting

Committee meeting closed to the public, held exclusively with the presence of legislators and, when appropriate, of Cabinet Ministers or witnesses called to testify, who participate only for the necessary time.

- RICD, article 48, paragraphs 2 to 6; RISF, articles 116 and 117.
- *General Concept:* [Meeting <as to publicity>](#).
- *See also:* [Secret Session](#).
- *Translation:* Reunião Secreta (Portuguese); Reunión Secreta (Spanish).

Secret Session

Session closed to the public, including staff of the House, in the cases foreseen in the Federal Constitution and in the Standing Rules of each Legislative House.

- CF, article 52, IV; RCCN, article 27; RICD, articles 92-94; RISF, article 190 to 198.
- *General Concept:* [Session <as to publicity>](#).
- *See also:* [Secret Meeting](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão Secreta (Portuguese); Sesión Secreta (Spanish).

Secret Voting

Voting method in which a legislator votes secretly in the cases provided for in the Federal Constitution and in the respective Standing Rules.

- CF, article 52, III, IV and XI; RICD, article 188; RISF, articles 291 and 295 to 297.
- *General Concept:* [Voting <as to publicity>](#).
- *See also:* [Voting Method](#).

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- *Translation:* Votação Secreta (Portuguese); Votación Secreta (Spanish).

Secretariat-General of the Board (SGM)

Main technical and legislative advisory body of the Directing Board, it is also responsible for receiving and forwarding proposals, and for monitoring legislative work. The Secretary-General of the Board of the Congress is also the Secretary-General of the Board of the Senate.

- RICD, article 3, paragraph 2, article 139, III, and article 252, V; RCD 20/1971, article 16; RISF, articles. 169 e 261, III, paragraph 2, III.
- *Synonymous:* Clerk's Office.
- *Translation:* Secretaria-Geral da Mesa (SGM) (Portuguese); Secretaría General de la Mesa (SGM) (Spanish).

Select Committee

Temporary committee that may be created to issue an advisory opinion on: 1) a constitutional amendment bill; 2) a bill of code; 3) a proposal that falls within the competent jurisdiction of more than three merit committees (standing committees). There are three more cases for which a select committee may be created: (1) amendment or reform of the RICD; 2) in case of a lawsuit in impeachable offenses of the President and the Vice-President of the Republic and of a Cabinet Minister; 3) when so determined by the President of the Chamber of Deputies.

- RICD, articles 17, I, “m”, 34, 202, paragraphs 2 to 4, 205, 206 and 216, paragraph 2, II; Law No. 1,079/1950, articles 19 to 21.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept:* [Temporary Committee](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Special Joint Committee \(CME\)](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Especial (Portuguese); Comisión Especial (Spanish).

Select Subcommittee

Type of subcommittee that performs specific activities or addresses a matter defined in its respective act of creation.

- RICD, article 29, II.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept:* [Subcommittee](#).
- *Translation:* Subcomissão Especial (Portuguese); Subcomisión Especial (Spanish).

Seminar

Committee event to discuss a topic within the thematic field of that Committee.

- RICD, article 24.

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- *Translation:* Seminário (Portuguese); Congreso (Spanish).

Senator

Legislator representing the states or the Federal District elected by the majority system for the Federal Senate. Three Senators represent each unit of the Federation and their term in office lasts two congresses, that is, eight years. Unlike the elections for Deputies, seats for Senators are filled every four years at the rate of one-third and two-thirds of the total number of seats, alternately.

- CF, articles 53-56.
- *General Concept:* [Legislator](#).
- *See also:* [Federal Deputy](#) and [Substitute of Senator of the Republic](#).
- *Translation:* Senador (Portuguese); Senador (Spanish).

Separate

Official publication composed of texts of proposals, advisory opinions and other information that directly contributes to the examination of a matter.

- *General Concept:* [Official Publication](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Separate of the Order of Business](#).
- *Translation:* Avulso (Portuguese); Documentación Complementaria (Spanish).

Separate of the Order of Business

Document containing the matters on the agenda, a list of speakers, deadlines for the submission of amendments and appeals, among other relevant information on the progress of the work of the Legislative House.

- RICD, articles 58, paragraph 2, and 132, paragraph 2; RISF, articles 163 and 170, paragraph 2.
- *General Concept:* [Separate](#).
- *See also:* [Order of Business](#).
- *Translation:* Avulso da Ordem do Dia (Portuguese); Orden del Día (Spanish).

Separate Vote (VTS)

An alternative to the vote of the rapporteur in a committee. It may be submitted by any member.

- RICD, article 57, X; RISF, article 132, paragraph 6, I.
- *Translation:* Voto em Separado (VTS) (Portuguese); Voto Particular (VTS) (Spanish).

Separate Voting

Instrument of the Standing Rules that allows a later examination of part of a proposal, an amendment or a second-degree amendment by means of a request passed by the Plenary or by a committee.

- RCCN, article 50; RICD, articles 161 and 162; RISF, articles 312 to 314.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Separate Voting <as to authorship>](#), [Separate Voting <as to purpose>](#), [Separate Voting <as to voting form>](#) and [Separate Voting <as to voting order>](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada (Spanish).

Separate Voting <as to authorship>

- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Separate Voting by a Parliamentary Group](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque <quanto à autoria> (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada <en cuanto a la autoría> (Spanish).

Separate Voting <as to purpose>

- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Simple Suppressive Separate Voting](#) and [Separate Voting for the Creation of an Autonomous Bill](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque <quanto à finalidade> (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada <en cuanto a la finalidad> (Spanish).

Separate Voting <as to voting form>

- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Separate Voting for Examination on the Electronic Panel](#) and [Separate Voting of an Amendment \(DVS\)](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque <quanto à forma de votação> (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada <en cuanto a la forma> (Spanish).

Separate Voting <as to voting order>

- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Preferential Separate Voting](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque <quanto à ordem de votação> (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada <en cuanto al orden> (Spanish).

Separate Voting by a Parliamentary Group

Separate voting submitted by a parliamentary group within the quota foreseen in the Standing Rules for each voting.

- RCCN, article 106-D; RICD, article 161, paragraph 2; RISF, article 312, sole paragraph.
- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting <as to authorship>](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque de Bancada (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada Propuesta por Grupo Parlamentario (Spanish).

Separate Voting for Examination on the Electronic Panel

Instrument of the Standing Rules that allows the voting of provisions vetoed on the electronic panel (separate voting to remove a provision from the electronic ballot). It is submitted by means of a request of leaders regardless of approval by the Plenary. It must subject to the quota foreseen in the Standing Rules for each parliamentary group.

- RCCN, article 106-D.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *General Concepts:* [Separate Voting <as to voting form>](#) and [Separate Voting of an Amendment \(DVS\)](#).
- *See also:* [Electronic Panel](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque para Avaliação no Painel Eletrônico (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada por el Panel Electrónico (Spanish).

Separate Voting for the Creation of an Autonomous Bill

Type of separate voting on an amendment or on part of a proposal to make it into an independent bill, which will be processed as a new proposal as of the adoption of the separate voting.

- RICD, articles 161, III, and 162, XI; RISF, article 312, I.
- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting <as to purpose>](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque para Constituição de Projeto Autônomo (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada para Constitución de Proposición Autónoma (Spanish).

Separate Voting of an Amendment (DVS)

Separate Voting that aims to vote separately part of the text of the main proposal.

- RICD, article 161, I, and paragraph 2; RISF, article 312, II.
- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting <as to voting form>](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Separate Voting for Examination on the Electronic Panel](#).

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- *Translation:* Destaque para Votação em Separado (DVS) (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada por Separado (DVS) (Spanish).

Session

Event in which legislators meet as a collegiate body for debate or deliberation on proposals in the Plenary; or for the exercise of other powers foreseen in the Federal Constitution and in the Standing Rules of each House.

- RICD, articles 65-78; RISF, article 154.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Session <as to membership>](#), [Session <as to purpose>](#), [Session <as to nature>](#) and [Session <as to publicity>](#).
- *See also:* [Opening of a Session](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão (Portuguese); Sesión (Spanish).

Session <as to membership>

- *General Concept:* [Session](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Joint Session](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão <quanto à composição> (Portuguese); Sesión <en cuanto a la composición> (Spanish).

Session <as to nature>

- *General Concept:* [Session](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Deliberative Session](#), [Special Session](#), [Solemn Session](#), [Debate Session](#), [Thematic Debates Session](#) and [Non-Deliberative Session](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão <quanto à natureza> (Portuguese); Sesión <en cuanto a la naturaleza> (Spanish).

Session <as to publicity>

- *General Concept:* [Session](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Public Session](#) and [Secret Session](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão <quanto à publicidade> (Portuguese); Sesión <en cuanto a la publicidad> (Spanish).

Session <as to purpose>

- *General Concept:* [Session](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Preparatory Session and Election of the Board](#), [Session for the Inauguration of the President and Vice-President of the Republic](#), [Commencement Session of a Legislative Session](#) and [Session for the Reception of a Foreign Head of State](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão <quanto à finalidade> (Portuguese); Sesión <en cuanto a la finalidad> (Spanish).

Session for the Inauguration of the President and Vice-President of the Republic

Joint session of the National Congress intended to take the oath and swear in the President and Vice-President of the Republic.

- CF, art. 57, paragraph 3, III; RCCN, articles 60 to 67.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *General Concepts*: [Session <as to purpose>](#), [Joint Session](#) and [Solemn Session](#).
- *Translation*: Sessão da Posse do Presidente e do Vice-Presidente da República (Portuguese); Sesión de Toma de Posesión del Presidente y Vicepresidente de la República (Spanish).

Session for the Reception of a Foreign Head of State

Session to welcome a Head of State.

- RCCN, articles 68-71.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *General Concepts*: [Session <as to purpose>](#), [Joint Session](#) and [Solemn Session](#).
- *Translation*: Sessão de Recepção a Chefe de Estado Estrangeiro (Portuguese); Sesión de Recepción a Jefe de Estado Extranjero (Spanish).

SF

See [Federal Senate \(SF\)](#).

SGM

See [Secretariat-General of the Board \(SGM\)](#).

Short Address

First phase of the ordinary session of the Plenary of the Chamber of Deputies. It lasts no longer than sixty minutes. It is intended for the subject matter of the session and for communications of previously registered legislators.

- RICD, articles 66, I, and 79-81.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House*: [Period of Address](#).
- *Part of*: [Ordinary Session \[CD\]](#).
- *See also*: [Parliamentarian Communications](#).
- *Translation*: Pequeno Expediente (Portuguese); Pequeño Turno de Palabra (Spanish).

Simple Majority

Quorum of adoption requiring a number of votes greater than half of those present in the collegiate, provided that an absolute majority of its members is present.

- CF, article 47; RICD, article 183; RISF, article 288.
- *General Concept:* [Quorum for Deliberation](#).
- *See also:* [Absolute Majority](#).
- *Translation:* Maioria Simples (Portuguese); Mayoría Simple (Spanish).

Simple Suppressive Separate Voting

Separate voting to exclude a provision from a proposal. The parts of a proposal that have been subject to suppressive separate voting are adopted together with the proposal. For those parts to be excluded from the text already adopted, suppressive separate voting must pass.

- RICD, article 161, V.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept:* [Separate Voting <as to purpose>](#).
- *Translation:* Destaque Supressivo Simples (Portuguese); Votación Fragmentada para Supresión Simple (Spanish).

Solemn Inauguration Pledge

Upon taking office, the oath taken by legislators to defend the Federal Constitution, the laws, the general good of the people, and the integrity and independence of the country.

- RICD, article 4, paragraph 3; RISF, article 4, paragraph 2.
- *Translation:* Compromisso Solene de Posse (Portuguese); Juramento (Spanish).

Solemn Session

Session of the National Congress or of the Chamber of Deputies for special celebrations or tributes, or for the reception of high-level personalities.

- RCCN, articles 1, paragraph 2, and 53 to 71; RICD, articles 65, III, “b”, and 68.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the National Congress and the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Special Session](#).
- *General Concept:* [Session <as to nature>](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Session for the Inauguration of the President and Vice-President of the Republic](#), [Commencement Session of a Legislative Session](#) and [Session for the Reception of a Foreign Head of State](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão Solene (Portuguese); Sesión Solemne (Spanish).

Speaker

Legislator who speaks during a committee meeting or a plenary session.

- RICD, article 73, IV; RISF, article 14.
- *See also:* [Speech](#).
- *Translation:* Orador (Portuguese); Orador (Spanish).

Special Joint Committee (CME)

Committee created at the request of any legislator, according to the decision of the President of the National Congress in the Joint Session of December 11, 1991, and published in the Journal of the National Congress of December 12, 1991. The request, to be examined in a joint session, must indicate the purpose of the committee, the number of members and the duration, which may be extended once for half the initial period.

- *Note:* in-house terminology of the National Congress.
- *General Concepts:* [Select Committee](#) and [Joint Committee](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Mista Especial (CME) (Portuguese); Comisión Mixta Especial (CME) (Spanish).

Special Regime

Rite provided for the processing of proposals that have certain constitutional or procedural peculiarities that distinguish them from bills in general. Examples are proposals for amendments to the Federal Constitution, bills of codes and draft amendments to the Standing Rules, among others.

- RICD, article 201 et seq .; RISF, articles 354 ff.
- *Specific Concept:* [Fast-track](#).
- *Translation:* Regime Especial (Portuguese); Procedimiento Especial (Spanish).

Special Session

Session of the Federal Senate held for special celebrations or tributes, or for the reception of high-level personalities.

- RISF, articles 154, paragraph 5, 199 and 200.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Solemn Session](#).
- *General Concept:* [Session <as to nature>](#).
- *Translation:* Sessão Especial (Portuguese); Sesión Especial (Spanish).

Speech

Prerogative of legislators to express themselves orally for the presentation of ideas and standpoints, as well as for interpellations, interruptions, oral requests, and other statements under the terms of the Standing Rules.

- RICD, articles 17, I, “c”, and 173 et seq; RISF, articles 14 and 158.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Interruption](#), [Brief Communications](#), [Urgent Communication](#), [Leaders' Communication](#), [Parliamentary Speech](#), [Voting Guidance](#) and [By the Order](#).
- *See also:* [Debate of a Proposal](#) and [Speaker](#).
- *Translation:* Uso da Palavra (Portuguese); Turno de Palavra (Spanish).

Speech Considered as Read

Parliamentary speech not delivered orally and forwarded to the Directing Board for publication in the journal of that Legislative House, its reading in Plenary being waived.

- RICD, article 75.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Speech Forwarded for Publication](#).
- *General Concept:* [Parliamentary Speech](#).
- *Translation:* Discurso Dado como Lido (Portuguese); Discurso Considerado Leído (Spanish).

Speech Forwarded for Publication

Parliamentary speech not delivered orally and forwarded to the Directing Board for publication in the journal of that Legislative House, its reading by third parties in Plenary being waived.

- RISF, article 203.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Equivalent term in the other House:* [Speech Considered as Read](#).
- *General Concept:* [Parliamentary Speech](#).
- *Translation:* Discurso Encaminhado à Publicação (Portuguese); Discurso Remetido a la Publicación (Spanish).

Stand

A usually elevated or prominent place, from where orators speak.

- RICD, article 73, IV; RISF, articles. 17, sole paragraph, 20.
- *Translation:* Tribuna (Portuguese); Tribuna de Oradores (Spanish).

Standing Committee

Specialized body that is part of the institutional framework of the Legislative House, with a thematic scope previously defined in the Standing Rules. Generally with deliberative competent jurisdiction, it examines the matters or proposals submitted. It also monitors governmental plans and programs, and oversees the budget of the Union within the scope of its respective theme.

- CF, article 58; RICD, articles 22, I, and 32; RISF, articles 97 to 105.
- *General Concept:* [Committee <as to temporality>](#).
- *Specific Concept:* [Directing Committee](#).
- *See also:* [Temporary Committee](#) and [Summons of an Authority](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Permanente (Portuguese); Comisión Permanente Legislativa (Spanish).

Standing Rules

Systematized set of rules that regulates the organization and operation of each Legislative House or of the National Congress.

- *General Concept:* [Legal Norm](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Joint Standing Rules of the National Congress \(RCCN\)](#), [Standing Rules of the Chamber of Deputies \(RICD\)](#) and [Standing Rules of the Federal Senate \(RISF\)](#).
- *Translation:* Regimento Interno (Portuguese); Reglamento (Spanish).

Standing Rules of the Chamber of Deputies (RICD)

Systematized set of rules that regulates the organization and operation of the Chamber of Deputies.

- *General Concept:* [Standing Rules](#).
- *Translation:* Regimento Interno da Câmara dos Deputados (RICD) (Portuguese); Reglamento de la Cámara de Diputados (RICD) (Spanish).

Standing Rules of the Federal Senate (RISF)

Systematized set of rules that regulates the organization and operation of the Federal Senate.

- *General Concept:* [Standing Rules](#).
- *Translation:* Regimento Interno do Senado Federal (RISF) (Portuguese); Reglamento del Senado Federal (RISF) (Spanish).

State Legislative Assembly

Legislative Body of each state of the Federation whose members are elected by the people. It is responsible for writing, discussing and passing the legal norms within their competent jurisdiction.

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- *General Concept:* [Legislative House <as to federative level>](#).
 - *Translation:* Assembleia Legislativa (Portuguese); Asamblea Legislativa (Spanish).

State Parliamentary Group

Organized grouping of legislators from the same Federation Unit. Its duties include, for example, presenting amendments to the Annual Budget Bill (PLOA).

- RCN 1/2006, article 46 et seq.
- *General Concept:* [Parliamentary Group](#).
- *Translation:* Bancada Parlamentar Estadual (Portuguese); Grupo Parlamentario Estatal (Spanish).

Subcommittee

Fractional body of a standing or temporary committee to study a specific matter within the thematic field of the committee.

- RICD, article 29 et seq; RISF, article 73.
- *Specific Concept:* [Select Subcommittee](#).
- *Translation:* Subcomissão (Portuguese); Subcomisión (Spanish).

Submission of a Proposal

Submission of a proposal to a Legislative House.

- RICD, articles 100, paragraph 2, 101, 137; RISF, article 235 et seq.
- *See also:* [Author](#), [Initiative](#) and [Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Apresentação de Proposição (Portuguese); Presentación de Proposición (Spanish).

Subscription

Act of signing a document indicating the subscriber's approval of its content. Some proposals require a minimum number of subscribers for processing.

- CF, article 60, I; RICD, articles 102, paragraph 1 and 107, I; RISF, article 243.
- *Translation:* Subscrição (Portuguese); Suscripción (Spanish).

Substitute Amendment

See [Substitute Bill](#).

Substitute Bill

Amendment to replace the entire text of a main proposal, making substantial changes or merely formal changes in part or in the whole main text. In the Federal Senate, the substitute bill is subject to a new round of debate and voting (additional round of debate).

- RICD, article 118, paragraph 4; RISF, article 282.
- *General Concept:* [Amendment](#).
- *Synonymous:* Substitute Amendment.
- *Translation:* Substitutivo (Portuguese); Proposición Sustitutiva (Spanish).

Substitute Federal Deputy

Candidate who, in the proportional elections, did not obtain sufficient votes to take office as a federal deputy. He or she is included, according to the decreasing number of votes received, into the party's or coalition's list of substitutes. He or she may be called to replace temporarily the incumbent deputies in their absence or leave, or definitively in the event of their death, resignation or removal from office.

- CF, article 56, paragraph 1; RICD, articles 241-243.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept:* [Substitute Legislator](#).
- *See also:* [Federal Deputy](#).
- *Translation:* Suplente de Deputado Federal (Portuguese); Suplente de Diputado Federal (Spanish).

Substitute Legislator

A member called to replace the incumbent of a parliamentary term of office in the event of a temporary or permanent absence.

- CF, article 56, paragraph 1.
- *Specific Concepts:* [Substitute Federal Deputy](#) and [Substitute of Senator of the Republic](#).
- *Translation:* Suplente de Parlamentar (Portuguese); Suplente de Parlamentario (Spanish).

Substitute of Senator of the Republic

A citizen who, in the majority elections for the Federal Senate, ran as a substitute on the ticket of the Senator-elect. Each Senator is elected with two substitutes. They may be called to replace temporarily the Senator in his or her absence or leave, or definitively in the event of his or her death, resignation or removal from office.

- CF, article 56, paragraph 1; RISF, article 45.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *General Concept:* [Substitute Legislator](#).

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- *See also:* [Senator](#).
 - *Translation:* Suplente de Senador de la República (Portuguese); Suplente de Senador de la República (Spanish).

Substitute Rapporteur

Legislator designated by the chair of the Committee to replace the original rapporteur of the legislative proposal, in the following cases: the original rapporteur is unable to attend a Committee or Plenary meeting; or in the event of rejection of the report (SF) or of the Advisory Opinion (CD) of the original rapporteur.

- RICD, articles 41, VI, 51 and 57, XII; RISF, articles 126, paragraph 1, 128 and 147.
- *General Concept:* [Rapporteur <as to role>](#).
- *Synonymous:* Ad hoc Rapporteur *and* First-Round Wording Rapporteur.
- *See also:* [Prevailing Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Translation:* Relator Substituto (Portuguese); Ponente Sustituto (Spanish).

Summons of a Cabinet Minister

Prerogative of the Chamber of Deputies, of the Federal Senate or of any of their committees to summon the Cabinet Minister and heads of bodies directly subordinated to the President of the Republic so they can testify or provide information on a matter previously specified under penalty of liability.

- CF, article 50; RICD, articles 24, IV, 213 to 219; RISF, article 90, III and articles 397 to 400-A.
- *Translation:* Convocação de Ministro de Estado (Portuguese); Convocatoria de Ministro de Estado (Spanish).

Summons of an Authority

Act by which the CPIs, by virtue of their competent jurisdiction, determine the attendance of an authority or person for testimony. Standing committees may summon only Cabinet Ministers or heads of the bodies directly subordinated to the President of the Republic. Other authorities or any citizens receive an invitation requesting their attendance.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 2, III; RICD, articles 24, IV, and 36, II; RISF, articles 90 and 148.
- *See also:* [Parliamentary Committee of Investigation \(CPI\)](#), [Standing Committee](#) *and* [Attendance of a Cabinet Minister](#).
- *Translation:* Convocação de Autoridade (Portuguese); Convocatoria de Autoridad (Spanish).

Supplementary Law (LC)

An infraconstitutional type of normative instrument resulting from a bill of supplementary law passed by an express constitutional requirement and by an absolute majority of the members of the Legislative Branch.

- CF, article 69.

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- *General Concept:* [Legal Norm](#).
 - *See also:* [Bill of Supplementary Law \(PLP\)](#).
 - *Translation:* Lei Complementar (LC) (Portuguese); Ley Complementaria (LC) (Spanish).

Support for a Proposal

Expression of support by a legislator for a particular legislative proposal. Support is a necessary condition for the processing of some types of proposals. In the Chamber of Deputies, support implies co-authoring. In the Federal Senate, the Plenary votes on support for a proposal.

- RCCN, article 12, paragraph 2; RICD, articles 82, paragraph 4, 95, paragraph 9, 102, paragraph 1, 107, I, 119, I, 158, paragraph 2, III, 185, paragraph 3, and 202, paragraph 1; RISF, articles. 247 and 248.
- *See also:* [Author](#) and [Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Apoioamento de Proposição (Portuguese); Apoyo a una Proposición (Spanish).

Suppressive Amendment

Amendment to remove part of a proposal.

- RICD, article 118, paragraph 2º; RISF, article 246, II.
- *General Concept:* [Amendment](#).
- *Translation:* Emenda Supressiva (Portuguese); Enmienda Supresora (Spanish).

Suspension of the Agenda

Temporary impossibility of deliberating on certain matters, due to the occurrence of a compelling event, such as the examination of a provisional presidential decree with an expired deadline; or a bill on fast-track; or non-examination of presidential vetoes within the constitutional deadline. While these matters are not voted on, the agenda is blocked or suspended.

- CF, articles 62, paragraph 6, 64, paragraph 2, 66, paragraph 6; RCN 1/2002, article 9; RCCN, article 106, paragraph 3.
- *Synonymous:* Blockage of the Agenda.
- *See also:* [Agenda](#).
- *Translation:* Sobrestamento de Pauta (Portuguese); Suspensión de la Agenda (Spanish).

Suspensive Appeal against a Decision of the President on a Point of Order

Provision of the Standing Rules that allows, in the event of an appeal against a decision of the President on a point of order, for the decision to have its effects suspended until examination of the appeal. In the Chamber of Deputies, the support of one third of those present in plenary is required. In joint sessions of the National Congress, there is no such possibility (RCCN, article 132, paragraph 1).

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- RCCN, article 132, paragraph 1 (inverse meaning); RICD, article 95, paragraph 9; RISF, article 408, paragraph 1.
 - *See also:* [Point of Order](#).
 - *Translation:* Efeito Suspensivo de Recurso contra Decisão da Presidência em Questão de Ordem (Portuguese); Efecto Suspensivo de Recurso contra una Decisión de la Presidencia sobre una Cuestión de Orden (Spanish).

Symbolic Voting

Voting process in which legislators express themselves physically. Upon announcing the vote, the president invites the legislators in favor of a matter to remain seated, and those opposed to express it, which is usually done by raising an arm. This is the most common form of voting.

- RCCN, article 45; RICD, article 185; RISF, article 293.
- *General Concept:* [Open Voting](#).
- *See also:* [Acclamation](#).
- *Translation:* Votação Simbólica (Portuguese); Votación por Asentimiento (Spanish).

Temporary Attachment

See [Joint Processing](#).

Temporary Committee

Committee created for a specific task, with a defined period. It must be dissolved, in the Chamber of Deputies, at the end of the congress. In the Federal Senate or in the National Congress, at the end of the legislative session. In any case, if it has achieved its purpose; or if the time established for its duration has expired. A temporary committee may be select, external or of parliamentary investigation.

- CF, article 58; RICD, article 33; RISF, articles 74 to 76.
- *General Concept:* [Committee <as to temporality>](#).
- *Specific Concepts:* [Select Committee](#), [External Committee](#), [Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree \(CMMPV\)](#) and [Parliamentary Committee of Investigation \(CPI\)](#).
- *See also:* [Standing Committee](#).
- *Translation:* Comissão Temporária (Portuguese); Comisión Temporal (Spanish).

Terminative Advisory Opinion

Advisory Opinion issued, in the Chamber of Deputies, by the committees on Constitution and Justice and Citizenship (CCJC); Finance and Taxation (CFT) or by a select committee. It deals exclusively with the aspects of juridical admissibility (constitutionality and juridicity) or financial-budgetary of a proposal. The opinion is called

"terminative" because of its decisive character on these aspects. It may even determine the dismissal of a proposal. It may be subject to appeal, which must be signed by at least one tenth of the members of the Legislative House.

- RICD, article 54.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- *General Concept*: [Advisory Opinion <as to content analyzed>](#).
- *See also*: [Appeal against a Committee's Terminative Advisory Opinion](#).
- *Translation*: Parecer Terminativo (Portuguese); Dictamen Definitivo (Spanish).

Terminative Decision

Decision taken by a Committee, under the terms of the Standing Rules, which waives the competent jurisdiction of the Plenary. One tenth of the members of the Legislative House may appeal the Terminative Decision for examination of the matter by the Plenary.

- CF, article 58, paragraph 2, I; RISF, articles 91 and 92.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Equivalent term in the other House*: [Conclusive Examination](#).
- *Synonymous*: Terminative Deliberation and Terminative Examination.
- *See also*: [Appeal in a Terminative Matter](#).
- *Translation*: Decisão Terminativa (Portuguese); Decisión Definitiva (Spanish).

Terminative Deliberation

See [Terminative Decision](#).

Terminative Examination

See [Terminative Decision](#).

Thematic Debates Session

Session to address a relevant matter of national interest previously defined. It results from a call by the President or from the conversion of a deliberative session at the request of a third of Senators or of the President, passed by the Plenary.

- RISF, article 154, paragraphs 7 and 8.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Equivalent term in the other House*: [Debate Session](#).
- *General Concept*: [Session <as to nature>](#).
- *See also*: [General Committee](#).

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- *Translation:* Sessão de Debates Temáticos (Portuguese); Sesión Permanente (Spanish).

TVR

See [Concession and Renewal of Concession for Radio and Television Broadcasters \(TVR\)](#).

Unconstitutionality

Disagreement, inadequacy or incompatibility, be it formal or material, of a regulatory act, or omission about the principles and rules of the Constitution.

- See also: [Admissibility of a Constitutional Amendment Bill](#).
- *Translation:* Inconstitucionalidade (Portuguese); Inconstitucionalidad (Spanish).

Urgent Communication

Communication by a Senator on an urgent matter. It may occur once per session for up to five minutes.

- RISF, article 14, IX.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *General Concept:* [Speech](#).
- *Translation:* Comunicação Inadiável (Portuguese); Comunicación Inaplazable (Spanish).

Utmost Urgency

Instant deliberation of a matter considered of relevant and urgent national interest. To expedite the progress of a proposal, all procedural formalities are waived, except for the quorum, advisory opinions, and publications. The request for utmost urgency must be submitted by an absolute majority of the deputies or by leaders who represent such majority. After approval of the request, also by an absolute majority, the proposal may be automatically included into the Order of Business for discussion and voting in the same session.

- RICD, article 155.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Chamber of Deputies.
- See also: [Fast-track](#) and [Procedural Fast Track](#).
- *Translation:* Urgência Urgentíssima (Portuguese); Suma Urgencia (Spanish).

Verification of Quorum

See [Verification of Voting](#).

Verification of Voting

Voting procedure of a proposal by roll-call right after the announcement of its result by the symbolic process. In the Chamber of Deputies, the verification of voting must be requested by six hundredths of the deputies or

by the same amount of leaders. In the Federal Senate, verification of voting must be formally requested and supported by at least three Senators. In the National Congress, a leader, five Senators or twenty Deputies must formally request it.

- RCCN, article 45, paragraph 1; RICD, articles 185, paragraph 3, and 186, III; RISF, article 293, III-VI.
- *Synonymous*: Verification of Quorum.
- *Translation*: Verificação de Votação (Portuguese); Recuento del Resultado (Spanish).

Veto Message

Written communication whereby the head of the Executive Branch informs the Legislative that he or she has vetoed a bill, in whole or in part, and states reasons for the veto.

- CF, article 66, paragraph 1.
- *General Concept*: [Message from the Executive Branch](#).
- *See also*: [Presidential Veto](#).
- *Translation*: Mensagem de Veto (Portuguese); Mensaje de Veto (Spanish).

Voting

Phase of the legislative process in which a body decides on the adoption or rejection of a matter. It can be open, adopting a symbolic or a roll-call process; or secret, using an electronic system, ballots, or, in the case of the Federal Senate, a sphere.

- RCCN, articles 43 e 44; RICD, articles 180 to 193; RISF, articles 289 to 292 and 297.
- *Specific Concepts*: [Voting <as to scope>](#) and [Voting <as to publicity>](#).
- *Part of*: [Appreciation](#).
- *See also*: [Postponement of Voting](#), [Consideration](#), [Voting Guidance](#), [Impediment](#) and [Voting Method](#).
- *Translation*: Votação (Portuguese); Votación (Spanish).

Voting <as to publicity>

- *General Concept*: [Voting](#).
- *Specific Concepts*: [Open Voting](#) and [Secret Voting](#).
- *Translation*: Votação <quanto à publicidade> (Portuguese); Votación <en cuanto a la publicidad> (Spanish).

Voting <as to scope>

- *General Concept*: [Voting](#).
- *Specific Concept*: [Global Voting](#).
- *Translation*: Votação <quanto à abrangência> (Portuguese); Votación <en cuanto al abarcamiento> (Spanish).

Voting Guidance

Speech by leaders or legislators designated by them for or against the proposal whose vote was announced to guide the voting of the respective group.

- RCCN, article 49; RICD, article 192; RISF articles 14, VI, and 308 to 310.
- *General Concept:* [Speech](#).
- *See also:* [Voting](#).
- *Translation:* Encaminhamento de Votação (Portuguese); Turno de Portavoces (Spanish).

Voting Method

The manner by which legislators cast their votes, which can be open or secret.

- RICD, articles 184-188; RISF, articles 289-292.
- *See also:* [Voting](#), [Open Voting](#) and [Secret Voting](#).
- *Translation:* Modalidade de Votação (Portuguese); Sistemas de Votación (Spanish).

VTs

See [Separate Vote \(VTs\)](#).

Withdrawal of a Proposal

Prerogative granted to the author to cease the progress of a proposal. This may occur at any stage of the proceedings, subject to the decision of the President of the House or of the Plenary.

- RICD, article 104; RISF, articles 256 and 257.
- *See also:* [Proposal](#).
- *Translation:* Retirada de Proposição (Portuguese); Retirada de Proposición (Spanish).

Wording for an Additional Round of Debate

Legislative text resulting from the adoption of a proposal by the Plenary, in a single voting, in the form of a full substitute bill that includes any amendments. It is presented as an Advisory Opinion and submitted for adoption of the Plenary.

- RISF, article 317.
- *Note:* in-house terminology of the Federal Senate.
- *Synonymous:* First Round Wording [SF].
- *See also:* [Additional Round of Debate](#).
- *Translation:* Redação para o Turno Suplementar (Portuguese); Redacción para la Ronda Suplementaria (Spanish).

Wording for the Second Round of Voting

Legislative text resulting from the adoption by the Plenary, in the first round of voting, of a proposal that must be submitted to two rounds of voting. It is presented as an Advisory Opinion and submitted for adoption of the Plenary. If amendments (on the wording only) are adopted in the second round, there will also be a final wording including these amendments.

- RCCN, article 143; RISF, article 363 coupled with article 365.
- *Note*: in-house terminology of the National Congress and the Federal Senate.
- *Equivalent term in the other House*: [First Round Wording \[CD\]](#).
- *Translation*: Redação para o Segundo Turno (Portuguese); Redacción para la Segunda Ronda (Spanish).

List of Standing Committees

Brazilian Representation in the Mercosur Parliament (CPCMS) [CN]

The Brazilian Representation in the Mercosur Parliament, the liaison body between the National Congress and the Mercosur Parliament, was created by Resolution No. 1 of 2011-CN and is composed of twenty-seven Federal Deputies, ten Senators and an equal number of substitutes. It is incumbent upon the Brazilian Representation to assess and issue an Advisory Opinion on all matters of interest to Mercosur, to examine draft bills submitted by the Mercosur Parliament, and to participate in projects resulting from cooperation agreements with international organizations celebrated by the Mercosur Parliament.

- RCN 1/2011.
- *Translation:* Representação Brasileira no Parlamento do Mercosul (CPCMS) [CN] (Portuguese); Representación Brasileña en el Parlamento del Mercosur (CPCMS) [CN] (Spanish).

CAE

See [Committee on Economic Affairs \(CAE\) \[SF\]](#).

CAPADR

See [Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Food Supply and Rural Development \(CAPADR\) \[CD\]](#).

CAS

See [Committee on Social Affairs \(CAS\) \[SF\]](#).

CCai

See [Joint Committee for the Control of Intelligence Activities \(CCai\) \[CN\]](#).

CCJ

See [Committee on Constitution, Justice and Citizenship \(CCJ\) \[SF\]](#).

CCJC

See [Committee on Constitution and Justice and Citizenship \(CCJC\) \[CD\]](#).

CCT

See [Committee on Science, Technology, Innovation, Communication and Information Technology \(CCT\) \[SF\]](#).

CCTCI

See [Committee of Science and Technology, Communication and Information Technology \(CCTCI\) \[CD\]](#).

CCult

See [Committee on Culture \(CCult\) \[CD\]](#).

CDC

See [Committee on Consumer Protection \(CDC\) \[CD\]](#).

CDeics

See [Committee on Economic Development, Industry, Commerce and Services \(CDeics\) \[CD\]](#).

CDH

See [Committee on Human Rights and Participatory Legislation \(CDH\) \[SF\]](#).

CDHM

See [Committee on Human Rights and Minorities \(CDHM\) \[CD\]](#).

CDR

See [Committee on Regional Development and Tourism \(CDR\) \[SF\]](#).

CDU

See [Committee on Urban Development \(CDU\) \[CD\]](#).

CE

See [Committee on Education, Culture and Sports \(CE\) \[SF\]](#).

CE

See [Committee on Education \(CE\) \[CD\]](#).

Cespo

See [Committee on Sports \(Cespo\) \[CD\]](#).

CFFC

See [Committee on Financial Oversight and Control \(CFFC\) \[CD\]](#).

CFT

See [Committee on Finance and Taxation \(CFT\) \[CD\]](#).

CI

See [Committee on Infrastructure Services \(CI\) \[SF\]](#).

Cldoso

See [Committee on the Protection of the Rights of the Elderly \(Cldoso\) \[CD\]](#).

Cindra

See [Committee on National Integration, Regional Development and on the Amazon \(Cindra\) \[CD\]](#).

CLP

See [Committee on Participatory Legislation \(CLP\) \[CD\]](#).

CMA

See [Committee on the Environment \(CMA\) \[SF\]](#).

CMads

See [Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development \(CMads\) \[CD\]](#).

CMCPLP

See [Joint Committee of the National Congress on Issues Related to the Community of Portuguese Language Countries \(CMCPLP\) \[CN\]](#).

CMCVM

See [Joint Standing Committee to Combat Violence against Women \(CMCVM\) \[CN\]](#).

CME

See [Committee on Mines and Energy \(CME\) \[CD\]](#).

CMMC

See [Joint Standing Committee on Climate Change \(CMMC\) \[CN\]](#).

CMO

See [Joint Committee on Planning, Public Budgets and Oversight \(CMO\) \[CN\]](#).

CMulher

See [Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Women \(CMulher\) \[CD\]](#).

Committee of Science and Technology, Communication and Information Technology (CCTCI) [CD]

CCTCI is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) scientific and technological development; national science and technology policy and institutional organization of the sector; cooperation agreements with other countries and international organizations; b) national statistical, cartographic and demographic system; c) media and press freedom; d) production and programming of radio and television broadcasters; e) issues related to communications, telecommunications, information technology, telematics and robotics in general; f) computing industries and their strategic aspects; g) postal, telegraphic, telephone, telex, broadcasting and data transmission services; h) granting and renewal of the operation of sound and of sound and image broadcasting services; i) national policy on information technology, automation and telecommunications; j) legal regime for telecommunications and information technology. f) computer industries and their strategic aspects; g) postal, telegraphic, telephonic, telex, broadcasting and data transmission services; h) granting and renewal of exploration of sound broadcasting services and of sounds and images; i) national informatics and automation policy and telecommunications policy; j) legal statute of telecommunications and information technology.

- RICD, article 32, III.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Ciência e Tecnologia, Comunicação e Informática (CCTCI) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Ciencia y Tecnología, Comunicación e Informática (CCTCI) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Agriculture and Land Reform (CRA) [SF]

CRA is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - agrarian law; II - planning, monitoring and implementing agricultural and land policy; III - agriculture, livestock and supply; IV - family agriculture and food security; V - forestry, aquaculture and fishing; VI - trade and inspection of products and inputs, food inspection and oversight, surveillance and defense of animal and plant health; VII - irrigation and drainage; VIII - use and conservation of the soil in agriculture; IX - use and conservation of water and genetic resources in agriculture; X - investment policy and agricultural financing, rural insurance and rural indebtedness; XI - taxation of rural activity; XII - alienation or concession of public lands with an area greater than two thousand and five hundred hectares, purchase or leasing of rural property by foreign individuals or legal entities, definition of small and mediums-sized rural property; XIII - temporary use or possession of land

and legalization of ownership of rural lands and their occupation; XIV - settlement and agrarian reform; XV - cooperativism and rural associativism; XVI - employment, social security and rural income; XVII - policies to support small and medium rural properties; XVIII - policy for the technological development of agriculture and livestock, with fiscal, financial and credit incentives for agricultural research and experimentation, research, planting and sale of genetically modified organisms; XIX - rural extension; XX - organization of rural education; XXI - other related issues.

- RISF, article 104-B.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Agricultura e Reforma Agrária (CRA) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Agricultura y Reforma Agraria (CRA) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Food Supply and Rural Development (CAPADR) [CD]

CAPADR is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) agricultural policy and matters pertaining to agriculture and professional fishing, notably: 1 - organization of the rural sector; national cooperative policy; social conditions in rural areas; rural-urban migration; 2 - fiscal, financial and credit incentives to agriculture, agricultural research and experimentation; 3 - national rural credit policy and system; 4 - agricultural policy and planning and agricultural technological development policy; rural extension; 5 - agricultural insurance; 6 - policy for the supply, trade and export of agricultural, marine and aquaculture products; 7 - rural electrification policy; 8 - national irrigation policy and program; 9 - animal and plant health surveillance and defense; 10 - standardization and inspection of plant and animal products; 11 - standardization, inspection and oversight of the use of agrochemical pesticides in agricultural activities; 12 - agricultural inputs policy; 13 - meteorology and climatology; b) land policy and issues; land reform; agrarian justice; agrarian law, notably: 1 - temporary use or possession of land; agricultural contracts; 2 - official and private colonization; 3 - legalization of ownership of rural lands and their occupation; 4 - purchase or lease of rural properties by natural or legal persons abroad and in border areas; 5 - alienation and concession of public lands.

- RICD, article 32, I.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Agricultura, Pecuária, Abastecimento e Desenvolvimento Rural (CAPADR) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Agricultura, Ganadería, Abastecimiento y Desarrollo Rural (CAPADR) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Constitution and Justice and Citizenship (CCJC) [CD]

CCJC is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) constitutional, legal, juridical, and procedural aspects, as well as the legislative technique that applies to projects, amendments or substitute bills, subject to the examination of the Chamber or of its committees; b) admissibility of a constitutional amendment bill; c) matters of a juridical or constitutional nature submitted by the President of the Chamber, by its Plenary or another committee, or due to any appeal provided for in the RICD; d) matters relating to fundamental rights and guarantees, the organization of the State, the organization of the Branches and the

essential functions of Justice; e) matters relating to constitutional, electoral, civil, criminal, prison, procedural and notarial law; f) political parties, term in office and political representation, electoral systems and elections; g) public records; h) expropriations; i) nationality, citizenship, naturalization, legal regime of foreigners; emigration and immigration; j) federal intervention; l) use of national symbols; m) creation of new States and Territories; incorporation, subdivision or dismemberment of areas of States or Territories; n) temporary transfer of the seat of Government; o) amnesty; p) rights and duties of the term in office; Deputies' removal from office, in the cases of items I, II and VI of article 55 of the Federal Constitution; Deputies' leave to join the Armed Forces; q) first-round wording in the Plenary and final wording of proposals in general.

- RICD, article 32, IV.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Constituição e Justiça e de Cidadania (CCJC) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Constitución y Justicia y de Ciudadanía (CCJC) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Constitution, Justice and Citizenship (CCJ) [SF]

CCJ is responsible for: I - giving advisory opinions on the constitutionality, juridical and procedural aspects of the matters submitted by decision of the Plenary, by order of the President, by consultation of any committee, or when, due to these, there is an appeal to the plenary against a committee's terminative decision; II - giving advisory opinions, excluding the duties of other committees, on the merits, of matters within the competent jurisdiction of the Union, especially the following: a) creation of States and Territories, incorporation or dismemberment of areas belonging to them; b) state of defense, state of siege and federal intervention (FC, article 49, IV) civil conscription and amnesty; c) public security, military fire departments, police, including maritime, border air, road and railway police; d) civil, commercial, criminal, procedural, electoral, aeronautical, space, maritime and prison law; e) use of national symbols, nationality, citizenship and naturalization, extradition and expulsion of foreigners, emigration and immigration; f) bodies of the civil public service of the Union and employees of the direct and indirect administration of the Judiciary, Public Prosecution Service and Territories; g) general rules for bidding and contracting, in all modalities, for the direct administration, autonomous government agencies or foundations of the Union, of the States, of the Federal District and of the Municipalities, subject to the provisions of article 37, XXI of the Federal Constitution, and for public companies and mixed economy companies, under the terms of article 173, paragraph III, also of the Federal Constitution (CF, article 22, XXVII); h) Senators' removal from office (CF, article 55), Senators' leave to join the Armed Forces (CF, article 53, paragraph 7); (i) selection of Justices of the Supreme Court, of the Superior Courts and of Governors of Territories, selection and removal of the Attorney General of the Republic (CF, article 52, III, a, c and e); j) temporary transfer of the Federal Government headquarters; l) public records, administrative and judicial organization of the Public Prosecution Service and Public Defender's Office of the Union and of the Territories, judicial organization of the Public Prosecution Service and Public Defender's Office of the Federal District; m) limits of the States and assets of the Union; n) expropriation and tenancy; o) creation, operation and processing of the small claims court, legal assistance and public defense, costs of forensic services; p) the matters referred to in article 96, II, of the

Federal Constitution; III - proposing, by means of a bill of resolution, the suspension, in whole or in part, of laws declared unconstitutional by the Federal Supreme Court (CF, article 52, X); IV - issuing an opinion, in compliance with any order of the President, on amendments on the wording, under the conditions foreseen in the sole paragraph of article 234 of RISF; V - issuing an advisory opinion on legal or constitutional matters submitted by the President, on his or her own initiative, or by decision of the Plenary, or another committee; VI - issuing an advisory opinion on appeals to challenge decisions of the President.

- RISF, article 101.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Constituição, Justiça e Cidadania (CCJ) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Constitución, Justicia y Ciudadanía (CCJ) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Consumer Protection (CDC) [CD]

CDC is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) popular economy and repression of abuse of economic power; (b) consumer relations and consumer protection measures; c) composition, quality, presentation, advertising and distribution of goods and services.

- RICD, article 32, V.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Defesa do Consumidor (CDC) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Protección al Consumidor (CDC) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Culture (CCult) [CD]

CCult is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) cultural development, including historical heritage, geographic, archaeological, cultural, artistic and scientific heritage, cultural agreements with other countries; b) press rights, information and expression of thoughts, expression of intellectual, artistic, scientific and communication activity; c) intellectual production and its protection, copyright and correlated rights; d) management of government documentation and national archival assets; e) public entertainment and shows; f) commemorative dates; g) civic tributes.

- RICD, article 32, XXI.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Cultura (CCult) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Cultura (CCult) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Economic Affairs (CAE) [SF]

CAE is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - economic and financial aspects of any matter submitted by order of the President, by decision of the Plenary, or by consultation of a committee, and also when, due to these aspects, there is an appeal to the Plenary against a committee's terminative decision; II - (Revoked); III - economic problems of the country, policy on credit, exchange, insurance and transfer of funds, foreign and interstate trade, monetary, banking and measures system, securities and guarantee of metals, savings system, consortium and raffles and commercial propaganda; IV - taxes, tariffs,

compulsory loans, public finances, general rules on tax, financial and economic law; budget, commercial boards, conflicts of jurisdiction in tax matters amidst the Union, the States, the Federal District and the Municipalities, public debt and inspection of financial institutions; V - choice of Ministers of the Federal Audit Court (CF, articles 49, XIII, and 52, III, b), and of the president and directors of the Central Bank (CF, article 52, III, d); VI - matters referred to in articles 389, 393 and 394 of the RISF; VII - other related matters. The Committee on Economic Affairs is also responsible for periodically evaluating the functionality of the National Tax System, its structure and components, and the performance of the tax administrations of the Union, the States, the Federal District and the Municipalities.

- RISF, articles 99 and 99-A.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Assuntos Econômicos (CAE) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Asuntos Económicos (CAE) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Economic Development, Industry, Commerce and Services (CDeics) [CD]

Cdeics is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) international economic relations; b) national economic order; c) industrial, commercial and agricultural policy and activities; tertiary sector of the economy, except for financial services; d) monetary system; currency; foreign exchange and exchange reserves; e) foreign trade; import and export policies in general; commercial agreements, tariffs and quotas; f) state and corporate economic activity; privatization programs; monopolies of the Union; g) protection and temporary special benefits, except for those of a financial and tax nature, to Brazilian companies with national capital; h) cooperativism and other forms of association for economic activities, except when related to the subject matter of another committee; i) legal regime of companies and preferential treatment for micro and small-sized businesses; j) oversight and promotion by the State of economic activities; guidelines and bases for planning the balanced national development; national and regional or sectorial plans; l) matters related to commercial, corporate and bankruptcy law; economic law; m) industrial property and its protection; n) registration of trade and related activities; o) policies and national system of metrology, standardization and industrial quality; p) matters related to the delivery of services.

- RICD, article 32, VI.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Desenvolvimento Econômico, Indústria, Comércio e Serviços (CDeics) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Desarrollo Económico, Industria, Comercio y Servicios (CDeics) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Education (CE) [CD]

CE is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) education in general; b) educational policy and system, in its institutional, structural, functional and legal aspects; c) education law; (d) human and financial resources for education.

- RICD, article 32, IX.

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- *Translation:* Comissão de Educação (CE) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Educación (CE) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Education, Culture and Sports (CE) [SF]

CE is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - general rules on education, culture, education and sports, educational and cultural institutions, guidelines and bases for the national education and educational allowance; II - entertainment and public shows, artistic creations, commemorative dates and civic tributes; III - training and improvement of human resources; IV - (Revoked); V - (Revoked); VI - other related matters.

- RISF, article 102.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Educação, Cultura e Esporte (CE) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Educación, Cultura y Deportes (CE) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development (CMads) [CD]

Cmads is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) environmental national policy and system; environmental law; ecological defense legislation; b) renewable natural resources; flora, fauna and soil; edaphology and desertification; c) sustainable development.

- RICD, article 32, XIII.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Meio Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Sustentável (CMads) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible (CMads) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Finance and Taxation (CFT) [CD]

CFT is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) national financial system and associated entities; financial and capital markets; authorization for financial institutions to operate; financial operations; credit; stock and commodity exchanges; savings system; collection and guarantee of popular savings; b) housing financial system; c) national private insurance system and capitalization; d) bonds and securities; e) foreign capital legal system; profit remittance; f) internal and external public debt; g) public financial and budgetary matters, except for those under the competent jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee referred to in article 166, § of the Federal Constitution; general rules of financial law; general rules of bidding and contracting, in all modalities, for the direct and indirect public administration, including foundations created and maintained by the Government; h) public financial and budgetary aspects of any proposals that entail an increase or decrease in public revenue or expenditure, as to their compatibility or adequacy with the multi-year plan, the law on budgetary directives, and the annual budget; i) decision on the remuneration of the members of the National Congress, of the President and of the Vice-President of the Republic, of Cabinet Ministers and of the members of the federal judiciary; j) national tax system and distribution of tax revenues; general rules of tax law; legislation relating to each tax; l) taxation, collection, inspection; parafiscal charges; compulsory loans; social contributions; tax administration.

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- RICD, article 32, X.
 - *Translation:* Comissão de Finanças e Tributação (CFT) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Hacienda y Tributación (CFT) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Financial Oversight and Control (CFFC) [CD]

CFFC is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) accountability of the President of the Republic, in the cases in article 51, II, of the Federal Constitution; b) monitoring and oversight of accounting, financial, budgetary, operational and property of the Union and entities of the direct and indirect administration, including companies and foundations created and maintained by the Federal Government, without prejudice to the examination by the other committees in the areas of the respective competent jurisdictions and in articulation with the Joint Standing Committee mentioned in article 166, paragraph 1, of the Federal Constitution; c) national or regional development plans and programs, after examination by the other committees of the programs that concern them; d) representations from the Court of Audits requesting the suspension of challenged contract or other measures under the responsibility of the National Congress, preparing, in the event of a favorable advisory opinion, the respective bill of legislative decree (Federal Constitution, article 71, paragraph 1); e) examination of the activity reports of the Federal Audit Court (Federal Constitution, article 71, paragraph 4); f) request for information, reports, balance sheets and inspections on account or expense authorizations of federal administrative bodies and entities, directly or through the Federal Audit Court; g) implementation of the Annual Oversight and Control Plan (PAFC), pursuant to article 61-A of the RICD; h) submission of the Annual Oversight and Control Report (RAFC), pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 61-A of the RICD.

- RICD, article 32, XI.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Fiscalização Financeira e Controle (CFFC) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Fiscalización Financiera y Control (CFFC) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Foreign Affairs and National Defense (CRE) [SF]

CRE is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - proposals relating to international acts and relations (CF, Article 49, I) and to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; II - foreign trade; III - indication of the name of a permanent diplomatic mission to foreign governments and of international organizations to which Brazil is a party (CF, article 52, IV); IV - (Revoked); V - Armed Forces of land, sea and air, military conscriptions, passage of foreign forces and their stay in the national territory, border issues and limits of the national territory, airspace and sea, declaration of war and celebration of peace (CF, article 49, II); VI - matters pertaining to the United Nations Organization and international entities of any nature; VII - authorization for the President or Vice President of the Republic to be absent from the national territory (CF, Article 49, III); VIII - other related matters.

- RISF, article 103.

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- *Translation:* Comissão de Relações Exteriores e Defesa Nacional (CRE) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores y Defensa Nacional (CRE) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Foreign Affairs and National Defense (CREDN) [CD]

CREDN is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) diplomatic and consular, economic and commercial, cultural and scientific relations with other countries; relations with multilateral and regional international entities; b) Brazilian foreign policy; Brazilian foreign service; c) international treaties, acts, agreements and conventions and other foreign policy instruments; d) public international law; international legal order; nationality; citizenship and naturalization; legal regime of foreigners; emigration and immigration; e) authorization for the President or the Vice-President of the Republic to be absent from the national territory; f) national defense policy; strategic studies and information and counterintelligence activities; g) armed forces and auxiliary forces; military public administration; military service and alternative civilian service; passage of foreign forces and their stay in the national territory; deployment of troops abroad; h) issues related to the border strip and areas considered essential to national defense; i) military law and national defense legislation; maritime, aviation and space law; j) international disputes; declaration of war; conditions of armistice or peace; civil and military conscription in case of imminent danger and in time of war.

- RICD, article 32, XV.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Relações Exteriores e de Defesa Nacional (CREDN) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores y Defensa Nacional (CREDN) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Human Rights and Minorities (CDHM) [CD]

CDHM is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) receiving, evaluating and investigating complaints regarding human rights threats or violations; b) oversight and monitoring of government programs related to the protection of human rights; c) collaboration with national and international nongovernmental entities that work to defend human rights; d) research and studies related to the human rights situation in Brazil and in the world, including for the purpose of public disclosure and the provision of information to other Chamber committees; e) issues related to ethnic and social minorities, especially indigenous and indigenous communities; regimen of lands traditionally occupied by indians; f) preservation and protection of the country's popular and ethnic cultures; g) promotion of racial equality. f) preservation and protection of the popular and ethnic cultures of the country; g) fostering of racial equality.

- RICD, article 32, VIII.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Direitos Humanos e Minorias (CDHM) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Derechos Humanos y Minorías (CDHM) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Human Rights and Participatory Legislation (CDH) [SF]

CDH is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - legislative suggestions presented by associations and class bodies, trade unions and organized civil society entities, except for political parties with political representation in the National Congress; II - technical advisory opinions, statements and proposals from scientific and cultural entities and any of the entities mentioned in item I; III - guarantee and promotion of human rights; IV - women's rights; V - protection of the family; VI - protection and social integration of people with disabilities and protection of children, youth and the elderly; VII - monitoring, evaluation and control of governmental policies related to human rights, women's rights, rights of social or ethnic minorities, the rights of foreigners, the protection and integration of persons with disabilities and the protection of children, youth and the elderly.

- RISF, article 102-E.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Direitos Humanos e Legislação Participativa (CDH) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Derechos Humanos y Legislación Participativa (CDH) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Infrastructure Services (CI) [SF]

CI is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - land, sea and air transport, public works in general, mines, geological resources, telecommunications services, public-private partnerships and relevant regulatory agencies; II - other related matters.

- RISF, article 104.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Serviços de Infraestrutura (CI) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Servicios de Infraestructura (CI) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Labor, Administration and Public Service (CTasp) [CD]

CTasp is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) urban and rural labor matters; labor law, labor procedural law and accident law; b) individual contract and collective labor agreements; c) pertinent subjects to the organization, inspection, guardianship, safety and labor medicine; d) work of minors, women and foreigners; e) wage policy; f) employment policy; apprenticeship and professional training policy; g) individual and collective bargaining; collective labor conflicts; right to strike; h) Labor Justice; Labor Prosecutors Office; i) unionism and union organization; class representation system; trade union policy and freedom; j) labor legal relations at the international level; international organizations; conventions; l) relations between capital and labor; m) regulation of the exercise of professions; professional independent bodies; n) political-administrative organization of the Union and administrative reform; o) matters relating to administrative law in general; p) matters relating to the public service of the direct and indirect federal administration, including foundational; q) legal regime of civil and military civil servants, active and inactive; r) legal-administrative regime of public goods; s) provision of public services in general and their legal regime.

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- RICD, article 32, XVIII.
 - *Translation*: Comissão de Trabalho, de Administração e Serviço Público (CTasp) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Trabajo, Administración y Servicio Público (CTasp) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Mines and Energy (CME) [CD]

CME is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) Brazilian mineral and energy policies and models; b) institutional structure and role of agents in the mineral and energy sectors; c) conventional and alternative energy sources; d) research and exploration of mineral and energy resources; e) forms of access to mineral goods; mining companies; f) policy and price structure of energy resources; g) trading and industrialization of minerals; h) promotion of mineral activity; i) legal regime of mineral goods and energy resources; j) management, planning and control of water resources; and the legal regime of public and private waters.

- RICD, article 32, XIV.
- *Translation*: Comissão de Minas e Energia (CME) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Minas y Energía (CME) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on National Integration, Regional Development and on the Amazon (Cindra) [CD]

Cindra is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) the Amazon region, especially: 1 - regional integration and legal limits; 2 - economic appreciation; 3 - indigenous issues; 4 - hunting, fishing, fauna and flora and their regulation; 5 - exploitation of mineral, plant and water resources; 6 - tourism; 7 - sustainable development; b) development and integration of the Amazon region; regional economic and social development plans; regional incentives in the Amazon; c) development and integration of regions; regional economic and social development plans; regional incentives; d) national and regional plans for spatial planning and political-administrative organization; e) matters of federal interest in the Municipalities, States, Territories and in the Federal District; f) national civil defense system; policy to combat calamities; g) internal migrations.

- RICD, article 32, II.
- *Translation*: Comissão de Integração Nacional, Desenvolvimento Regional e da Amazônia (Cindra) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Integración Nacional, Desarrollo Regional y de la Amazonia (Cindra) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Participatory Legislation (CLP) [CD]

CLP is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) suggestions for legislative initiatives submitted by associations and class bodies, trade unions and organized civil society entities,

except for political parties; b) Technical advisory opinions, exhibitions and proposals from scientific and cultural entities and any of the entities mentioned in item "a".

- RICD, article 32, XII.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Legislação Participativa (CLP) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Legislación Participativa (CLP) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Public Safety and Organized Crime Prevention (CSPCCO) [CD]

CSPCCO is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) prevention, inspection and combat of drug use and illicit drug trafficking or related activities; b) combat of smuggling, organized crime, kidnapping, money laundering, rural and urban violence; c) control and trade of weapons, protection of witnesses and victims of crime, and their families; d) internal public security and its institutional bodies; e) receipt, evaluation and investigation of complaints related to organized crime, drug trafficking, rural and urban violence, and any related situation affecting public security; f) prison system, criminal legislation and criminal procedural legislation, from the point of view of public security; g) public security policies and their institutional bodies; h) supervision and monitoring of governmental programs and policies of public security; i) collaboration with non-governmental entities that deal with the matters listed in this item, as well as carrying out research, studies and conferences on the matters of their competent jurisdiction.

- RICD, article 32, XVI.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Segurança Pública e Combate ao Crime Organizado (CSPCCO) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Seguridad Pública y Combate al Crimen Organizado (CSPCCO) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Regional Development and Tourism (CDR) [SF]

CDR is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - regional inequalities and regional development policies of States and Municipalities; II - regional economic and social development plans; III - programs, projects, investments and incentives for regional development; IV - regional integration; V - regional development agencies and bodies; VI - tourism; VII - tourism policies; VIII - other related matters.

- RISF, article 104-A.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Desenvolvimento Regional e Turismo (CDR) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Desarrollo Regional y Turismo (CDR) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Science, Technology, Innovation, Communication and Information Technology (CCT) [SF]

CCT is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - scientific, technological and innovation development; II - national policy on science, technology, innovation, communication

and information technology; III - institutional organization of the sector; IV - cooperation and innovation agreements with other countries and international organizations in the area; V - intellectual property; VI - scientific and technological creations, computer science, nuclear activities of any nature, transport and use of radioactive materials, support and promotion to the research and the creation of technology; VII - communication, press, broadcasting, television, granting and renewal of concession, permission and authorization for the broadcasting of sound, and sound and image; VIII - regulation, control, and ethical issues regarding scientific and technological research and development, technological innovation, communication and information technology; IX - other related matters.

- RISF, article 104-C.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Ciência, Tecnologia, Inovação, Comunicação e Informática (CCT) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Ciencia, Tecnología, Innovación, Comunicación e Informática (CCT) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Social Affairs (CAS) [SF]

CAS is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - labor relations, organization of the national employment system and conditions for the exercise of professions, social security, indigenous populations and social assistance; II - protection and defense of health, conditions and requirements for the removal of human organs, tissues and substances for the purpose of transplantation, research, treatment and collection of human blood and blood products, production, control and inspection of medicines, sanitation, inspection and oversight in food and competent jurisdiction over the Unified Health System; III - (Revoked); IV - other related matters.

- RISF, article 100.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Assuntos Sociais (CAS) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Asuntos Sociales (CAS) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Social Security and Family (CSSF) [CD]

CSSF is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) health, social security and welfare in general; b) institutional organization of health in Brazil; c) health policy and health planning process; unified health system; d) public health services, public health campaigns, eradication of endemic diseases; epidemiological surveillance, biostatistics and immunization; e) social security medical assistance; private health institutions; f) alternative medicine; g) hygiene, education and sanitary assistance; h) medical and paramedical activities; i) control of drugs and food; blood and blood products; j) exercise of medicine and related professions; human resources for health; l) environmental health, occupational health; urban and rural labor accident insurance; m) food and nutrition; n) chemical-pharmaceutical industry; industrial drug protection; o) institutional organization of the country's social security; p) general regime and regulations of urban, rural and parliamentary social security; q) insurance and private security; r) official assistance, including maternity protection, to children, adolescents, the elderly and people with disabilities; s) legal regime of civil entities with social

and welfare purposes; t) matters relating to the family, women, the unborn, children, adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities; u) family law and minors' law.

- RICD, article 32, XVII.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Seguridade Social e Família (CSSF) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Seguridad Social y de la Familia (CSSF) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Sports (Cespo) [CD]

Cespo is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) national sports system and its organization; policy and national plan for physical and sports education; b) general rules on sport; sports justice.

- RICD, article 32, XXII.
- *Translation:* Comissão do Esporte (Cespo) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Deportes (Cespo) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on the Environment (CMA) [SF]

CMA is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: I - protection of the environment, pollution control, conservation of nature and protection of soil, natural and genetic resources, forests, hunting, fisheries, fauna, flora and water resources; II - national environment policy and system; III - preservation, conservation, exploitation and management of forests and biodiversity; IV - conservation and management of land use and water resources, in relation to the environment and sustainable development; V - inspection of food and agricultural and livestock products and inputs, with regard to the environment and sustainable development; VI - environmental law; VII - environmental regulatory agencies, including the National Water Agency (ANA); VIII - other related matters.

- RISF, article 102-F.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Meio Ambiente (CMA) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Medio Ambiente (CMA) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CPD) [CD]

CPD is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) all matters pertaining to persons with disabilities; b) receiving, evaluating and investigating complaints regarding threats or violations of the rights of persons with disabilities; (c) scientific research and studies, including those using stem cells, aimed at improving the living conditions of persons with disabilities; d) collaboration with non-governmental entities, national and international, that champion for the rights of people with disabilities; e) monitoring of actions by multilateral institutions, foreign states, e) monitoring of actions by multilateral institutions, foreign states, and international governmental organizations for the tutelage of persons with disabilities; f)

monitoring of actions of the councils of rights of the people with disabilities, created by the Union, by the States, by the Federal District and by the Municipalities.

- RICD, article 32, XVIII.
- *Translation*: Comissão de Defesa dos Direitos das Pessoas com Deficiência (CPD) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Defensa de los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad (CPD) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on the Protection of the Rights of the Elderly (CIldoso) [CD]

CIldoso is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) receiving, evaluating and investigating complaints concerning threats or violations of the rights of the elderly; (b) oversight and monitoring government programs related to the protection of the rights of the elderly; (c) support program for the elderly in social risk; d) monitoring public policies related to the elderly; e) monitoring the councils of rights of the elderly created by the Union, by the States, by the Federal District and by the Municipalities; f) research and studies on the situation of older persons in Brazil and worldwide, including for the purpose of public disclosure and provision of information to other committees of the Chamber; g) promoting awareness of the image of the elderly in society; h) legal regime for the protection of the elderly.

- RICD, article 32, XXI.
- *Translation*: Comissão de Defesa dos Direitos da Pessoa Idosa (CIldoso) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Defensa de los Derechos de las Personas Mayores (CIldoso) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Women (CMulher) [CD]

CMulher is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) receiving, evaluating and investigating complaints related to threats or violations of women's rights, especially victims of domestic, physical, psychological and moral violence, and respective discussion and decisions; b) inspecting and following up on government programs related to the protection of women's rights, aiming at women's empowerment in the Brazilian society; c) promoting and monitoring support programs for women heads of monoparental families; d) monitoring of maternal, infant and neonatal health, support programs to women in puerperal state, especially in the poorest regions of the country; e) promoting and monitoring programs for the prevention of and fight against uterine, cervical, ovarian and breast cancer; f) promoting and monitoring programs for the prevention of and fight against sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and AIDS; g) promoting and monitoring programs for the prevention of and fight against violence and sexual exploitation of female children and adolescents; h) monitoring the working conditions, especially of rural women; i) researches and studies on the situation of women in Brazil and worldwide, especially related to national campaigns for humanized childbirth, breastfeeding, and the right of access to daycare centers by working women; j) granting, under the terms of Resolution No. 3, of June 25, 2003, the Woman-Citizen Diploma Carlota Pereira de Queirós, observing the criteria established in Resolution No. 13, of November 20, 2003; k) promoting awareness of the image of women in society; l) matters

concerning racial equality for women; receiving, evaluating and investigating complaints concerning racial discrimination of women, promotion and defense of racial equality of women.

- RICD, article 32, XXI.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Defesa dos Direitos da Mulher (CMulher) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer (CMulher) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on the Senate of the Future (CSF) [SF]

CSF is responsible for promoting debates on major issues and the future of the country, as well as improving the effectiveness of the Senate in these matters.

- RISF, article 104-D.
- *Translation:* Comissão Senado do Futuro (CSF) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión Senado del Futuro (CSF) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Tourism (CTur) [CD]

CTur is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) national tourism policy and system; b) exploration of tourism activities and services; c) collaboration with public entities and non-governmental organizations that work in the development of tourism policy.

- RICD, article 32, XIX.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Turismo (CTur) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Turismo (CTur) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Traffic and Transportation (CVT) [CD]

CVT is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) the national road system and transportation systems in general; b) air, sea, water, rail, road and subway transport; pipeline transport; c) ordering and operating transport services; d) urban, interstate, inter-municipal and international transport; e) merchant marine, ports and waterways; maritime and cabotage and inland navigation; maritime law; f) civil aviation, airports and airport infrastructure; safety and air traffic control; aeronautical law; (g) transport of passengers and cargo; legal regime and sectorial legislation; agreements and conventions; liability of the carrier; h) security, politics, education and traffic, and transport legislation.

- RICD, article 32, XX.
- *Translation:* Comissão de Viação e Transportes (CVT) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Carreteras y Transportes (CVT) [CD] (Spanish).

Committee on Transparency, Governance, Oversight and Control, and Consumer Protection (CTFC) [SF]

CTFC is responsible for: I - supervision and control of acts of the Executive Branch, including those of the indirect administration, and may for this purpose: a) evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency and economy of government projects and programs at the national, regional and sectorial development levels, issuing Conclusive Advisory Opinions; b) assess the compatibility of budget execution with government plans and programs and of the latter with the objectives adopted by law; c) request, in writing, information from the direct and indirect administration, as well as request public documents necessary for the elucidation of the act subject to inspection; d) evaluate the accounts of administrators and others responsible for money, goods and public values of the direct and indirect administration, including foundations and societies created and maintained by the Federal Government, notably when there is evidence of loss, misplacement or irregularity of any nature that results in damage to the Treasury; e) arrange for the carrying out of expert examinations, as well as to request that the Federal Audit Court carry out inspections or audits of an accounting, a financial, a budgetary, an operational and a property nature in the administrative units of the Union and other entities referred to in paragraph "d"; f) appraise the national accounts of supranational companies in whose capital stock the Union participates directly or indirectly, as well as the application of any resources transferred by means of an agreement, a settlement, an adjustment or other similar instruments, to a State, the Federal District or a Municipality; g) promote the interaction of the Federal Senate with the bodies of the Executive Branch that, due to the nature of their activities, may possess or generate data necessary for the Senate's duty of oversight and control; h) promote the interaction of the Federal Senate with the bodies of the Judiciary Branch and of the Public Prosecution Service that, due to the nature of their activities, may provide or generate data necessary for the Senate's duty of oversight and control; i) propose to the Senate Plenary appropriate measures for appraisals and outcomes of investigations carried out by the Federal Audit Court; II - advisory opinions on matters pertaining to the following matters: a) prevention of corruption; b) monitoring and modernization of managerial practices in the direct and indirect federal public administration; c) effective and efficient rendering of public services; d) transparency and rendering of accounts and information to the population, focusing on the responsibility of fiscal management and public spending, as well as on the needs of citizens; e) dissemination and incentive, in the public administration, of new media to provide information to society -- such as networks, sites and electronic portals -- and support the states and municipalities implement these media; III - advisory opinions on issues related to consumer protection, especially: a) study, elaborate and propose rules and measures for the continuous improvement of market relations, especially those involving suppliers and consumers; b) improve regulatory, contractual and criminal legislative instruments, regarding the rights of consumers and suppliers, with an emphasis on conditions, limits and use of information, civil liability, respect for privacy, copyright, patents and the like; c) monitor policies and those developed by the Government concerning the protection of consumer rights and competition, and the repression of the formation and illegal operation of monopolies; d) receive complaints and report practices related to abuse of economic power, quality and presentation of products, advertising and publicity strategies that are harmful or misleading; e) assess the

cost and price ratio of products, goods and services, with a view to establishing rules for repression of usury, excessive profits, indiscriminate price increases and the cartelization of market segments; f) analyze competition conditions with an emphasis on the protection of national manufacturers and suppliers, taking into account the interests of consumers and the national sovereignty; g) generate and make available studies, statistical data and information, within the scope of its competent jurisdiction.

- RISF, article 102-A.
- *Translation*: Comissão de Transparência, Governança, Fiscalização e Controle e Defesa do Consumidor (CTFC) [SF] (Portuguese); Comisión de Transparencia, Gobernanza, Fiscalización y Control y Protección al Consumidor (CTFC) [SF] (Spanish).

Committee on Urban Development (CDU) [CD]

CDU is responsible for giving advisory opinions on proposals related to the following matters: a) urbanism and architecture; politics and urban development; use, parceling and occupation of urban land; housing and the housing financial system; urban transport; urban infrastructure and environmental sanitation; b) urban planning law and the legal-urban planning of the territory; national and regional planning and political-administrative organization plans; c) municipal and territorial development and policy; d) matters related to municipal and building law; (e) metropolitan regions, urban agglomerations, integrated regions of development and micro regions.

- RICD, article 32, VII.
- *Translation*: Comissão de Desenvolvimento Urbano (CDU) [CD] (Portuguese); Comisión de Desarrollo Urbano (CDU) [CD] (Spanish).

CPCMS

See [Brazilian Representation in the Mercosur Parliament \(CPCMS\) \[CN\]](#).

CPD

See [Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(CPD\) \[CD\]](#).

CRA

See [Committee on Agriculture and Land Reform \(CRA\) \[SF\]](#).

CRE

See [Committee on Foreign Affairs and National Defense \(CRE\) \[SF\]](#).

CREDN

See [Committee on Foreign Affairs and National Defense \(CREDN\) \[CD\]](#).

CSF

See [Committee on the Senate of the Future \(CSF\) \[SF\]](#).

CSPCCO

See [Committee on Public Safety and Organized Crime Prevention \(CSPCCO\) \[CD\]](#).

CSSF

See [Committee on Social Security and Family \(CSSF\) \[CD\]](#).

CTasp

See [Committee on Labor, Administration and Public Service \(CTasp\) \[CD\]](#).

CTFC

See [Committee on Transparency, Governance, Oversight and Control, and Consumer Protection \(CTFC\) \[SF\]](#).

CTur

See [Committee on Tourism \(CTur\) \[CD\]](#).

CVT

See [Committee on Traffic and Transportation \(CVT\) \[CD\]](#).

Fipa

See [Joint Representative Committee of the National Congress at the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas \(Fipa\) \[CN\]](#).

Joint Committee for the Control of Intelligence Activities (CCai) [CN]

CCai is responsible for: I - conducting external control and inspection of intelligence and counterintelligence activities, including related operations, developed by Sisbin bodies in accordance with the Federal Constitution and other rules of the national legal system; II - examining and presenting suggestions for the National Intelligence Policy to be established by the President of the Republic, in accordance with the Law; III - examining and issuing advisory opinions on legislative proposals concerning intelligence and counterintelligence activity and the safeguard of confidential matters; IV - providing studies on intelligence activity; V - examining the activities and functioning of Sisbin bodies in accordance with the National Intelligence Policy; VI - presenting recommendations for the Executive Branch to improve Sisbin's functioning; VII - providing advisory opinions on the specific adjustments and conventions referred to in article 2, paragraph 2 of Law No. 9,883, of December 7, 1999; VIII - presenting

legislative proposals on intelligence, counterintelligence and safeguarding sensitive information activities; IX - monitoring the elaboration and dissemination of the national intelligence doctrine and the teaching in schools of intelligence and supervising the curricula of the Schools of Intelligence of the Brazilian Intelligence Agency (Esint / Abin) and of intelligence educational institutions; X - preparing reports regarding its activities of control and oversight of intelligence-related actions, programs and activities; XI - receiving and investigating complaints of violations of fundamental rights and guarantees by public bodies and entities as a result of intelligence and counterintelligence activity, submitted by any citizen, political party, association, or society; XII - reviewing the portion of the budget proposal related to the bodies and entities of the direct or indirect administration that carry out intelligence and counterintelligence activities, as well as reviewing proposals for additional credits for funding or investing in intelligence and counterintelligence activities and programs, especially those submitted by civilian and military bodies that make up the Brazilian Intelligence System, and forward the result of their analysis to the Joint Committee on Plans, Public Budgets and Oversight (CMO); XIII - submitting amendments to the preliminary advisory opinion of the general rapporteur for the annual budget bill; XIV - monitoring the implementation of budget appropriations for the bodies and entities of the direct or indirect administration that perform intelligence and counterintelligence activities. CCai is also responsible for: forwarding to the Board of the Federal Senate or of the Chamber of Deputies written requests for information to cabinet ministers or chief officers of bodies directly subordinated to the President of the Republic, regarding the performance of the bodies associated with their ministries that work in intelligence, counterintelligence and in the safeguard of confidential matters, observing the rules related to the handling of classified information and the protection of the national security and interests; call on cabinet ministers or chief officers of bodies directly subordinated to the President of the Republic to provide, in person, information on matters related to intelligence and counterintelligence activities and the safeguard of confidential matters, the absence of which is an impeachable crime without adequate justification; inviting any authority or citizen to provide clarification on matters related to intelligence, counterintelligence or safeguard of information.

- RCN 2/2013, articles 3 to 6.
- *Translation:* Comissão Mista de Controle das Atividades de Inteligência (CCai) [CN] (Portuguese); Comisión Mixta de Control de las Actividades de Inteligencia (CCai) [CN] (Spanish).

Joint Committee of the National Congress on Issues Related to the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CMCPLP) [CN]

The Joint Committee of the National Congress on Issues Related to the Community of Portuguese Language Countries is composed of four Federal Deputies, two Senators, and an equal number of substitutes. Among other duties, it is incumbent upon the CMCPLP: a) to evaluate and issue an advisory opinion on treaties, agreements, international acts and all matters of interest of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries that may be submitted to the National Congress; b) to discuss all matters concerning CPLP and Brazil's bilateral relations with the member states of the Community; c) to issue a detailed report on the information forwarded to

the National Congress by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries or by any other body of the CPLP; and (d) to study any matter within its thematic field or scope, and promote conferences, exhibitions, lectures or seminars.

- RCN 2/2014.
- *Translation:* Comissão Mista do Congresso Nacional de Assuntos Relacionados à Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa (CMCPLP) [CN] (Portuguese); Comisión Mixta del Congreso Nacional de Asuntos Relacionados con la Comunidad de Países de Lengua Portuguesa (CMCPLP) [CN] (Spanish).

Joint Committee on Planning, Public Budgets and Oversight (CMO) [CN]

As foreseen in the Constitution, CMO is responsible for: I - examining and issuing advisory opinions on the bills related to the multi-year plan, budgetary directives, annual budget and additional credits, as well as the accounts submitted annually by the President of the Republic; II - examining and issuing advisory opinions on the national, regional and sectorial plans and programs provided for in the Federal Constitution and monitoring and overseeing the budget, without prejudice to the performance of the other committees of the National Congress and its Houses.

- CF, article 166, paragraph 1; RCN 1/2006.
- *Translation:* Comissão Mista de Planos, Orçamentos Públicos e Fiscalização (CMO) [CN] (Portuguese); Comisión Mixta de Planes, Presupuestos Públicos y Fiscalización (CMO) [CN] (Spanish).

Joint Representative Committee of the National Congress at the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas (Fipa) [CN]

The Joint Representative Committee of the National Congress at the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas (FIPA) is composed of ten Federal Deputies, ten Senators and an equal number of substitutes. Its purpose is to represent the National Congress in the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas.

- RCN 2/2007.
- *Translation:* Comissão Mista Representativa do Congresso Nacional no Fórum Interparlamentar das Américas (Fipa) [CN] (Portuguese); Comisión Mixta Representativa del Congreso Nacional en el Foro Interparlamentario de las Américas (Fipa) [CN] (Spanish).

Joint Standing Committee on Climate Change (CMMC) [CN]

CMMC is responsible for continuously monitoring, supervising and inspecting climate-change related actions in Brazil, especially on: I - national climate change policy and plan; II - mitigation of climate change; III - adaptation to the effects of climate change; IV - sustainability of the electric matrix, electricity generation by renewable sources and cogeneration; V - consumption of fossil and renewable fuels; VI - analysis of environmental services; VII - orderly occupation of the soil; VIII - proper solid waste management; IX - emissions of greenhouse gases

due to industrial, agricultural and service sector activities; X - national and regional policies for sustainable development; XI - other related matters.

- RCN 4/2008, article 11.
- *Translation:* Comissão Mista Permanente sobre Mudanças Climáticas (CMMC) [CN] (Portuguese); Comisión Mixta Permanente sobre el Cambio Climático (CMMC) [CN] (Spanish).

Joint Standing Committee to Combat Violence against Women (CMCVM) [CN]

CMCVM is responsible for: I - diagnosing existing gaps in Social Security actions and services and the provision of public and legal security to women victims of violence; II - submitting proposals for the consolidation of the National Policy to Combat Violence against Women; III - holding public hearings with civil society entities; IV - requesting the testimony of any authority or citizen; V - promoting exchanges with international entities with a view to understanding the laws, policies and actions relevant to the purpose of the Committee.

- RCN 1/2014, article 3.
- *Translation:* Comissão Permanente Mista de Combate à Violência contra a Mulher (CMCVM) [CN] (Portuguese); Comisión Permanente Mixta de Eliminación de la Violencia contra la Mujer (CMCVM) [CN] (Spanish).

List of Political Parties

Avante

See [Go Forward Party \(Avante\)](#).

Brazilian Communist Party (PCB)

Political party created on May 9, 1996.

- TSE Resolution No. 19,550 / 1996 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation*: Partido Comunista Brasileiro (PCB) (Portuguese); Partido Comunista Brasileño (PCB) (Spanish).

Brazilian Communist Party [1990] (PCB)

See [Citizenship Party \(Cidadania\)](#).

Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB)

Political party created on May 11, 1981.

- TSE Resolution 11,042 / 1981 (Definitive registration); TSE court decision on Petition No. 128 (1286-49.1996.6.00.0000) (Change of name).
- *Previous denomination*: Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB).
- *Translation*: Movimento Democrático Brasileiro (MDB) (Portuguese); Movimiento Democrático Brasileño (MDB) (Spanish).

Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB)

See [Brazilian Democratic Movement \(MDB\)](#).

Brazilian Labor Party (PTB)

Political party created on November 3, 1981.

- TSE Resolution No. 11,120/1981 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation*: Partido Trabalhista Brasileiro (PTB) (Portuguese); Partido Laborista Brasileño (PTB) (Spanish).

Brazilian Labor Renovation Party (PRTB)

Political party created on February 18, 1997.

- TSE Resolution No. 19,785/1997 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation*: Partido Renovador Trabalhista Brasileiro (PRTB) (Portuguese); Partido Renovador Laborista Brasileño (PRTB) (Spanish).

Brazilian Progressive Party (PPB)

See [Progressive Party \(PP\)](#).

Brazilian Republican Party [2006] (PRB)

See [Republicans \(Republicanos\)](#).

Brazilian Social Democracy Party (PSDB)

Political party created on August 24, 1989.

- TSE Resolution No. 15,494 / 1989 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido da Social Democracia Brasileira (PSDB) (Portuguese); Partido de la Social Democracia Brasileña (PSDB) (Spanish).

Brazilian Socialist Party (PSB)

Political party created on July 1, 1988.

- TSE Resolution No. 14,359/1988 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Socialista Brasileiro (PSB) (Portuguese); Partido Socialista Brasileño (PSB) (Spanish).

Christian Democracy (DC)

Political party created on August 5, 1997.

- TSE Resolution No. 19,891/1997 (Definitive registration); TSE court decision on Petition No. 96 (863-89.1996.6.00.0000) (Change of name).
- *Previous denomination:* Christian Social Democratic Party [1997] (PSDC).
- *Translation:* Democracia Cristã (DC) (Portuguese); Democracia Cristiana (DC) (Spanish).

Christian Labor Party (PTC)

Political party created on February 22, 1990.

- TSE Resolution No. 16,281/1990 (Definitive registration); TSE Resolution No. 20,796 / 2001 (Change of name).
- *Previous denomination:* National Reconstruction Party (PRN).
- *Translation:* Partido Trabalhista Cristão (PTC) (Portuguese); Partido Laborista Cristiano (PTC) (Spanish).

Christian Social Democratic Party [1997] (PSDC)

See [Christian Democracy \(DC\)](#).

Christian Social Party (PSC)

Political party created on March 29, 1990.

- TSE Resolution No. 16,375/ 1990 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Social Cristão (PSC) (Portuguese); Partido Social Cristiano (PSC) (Spanish).

Cidadania

See [Citizenship Party \(Cidadania\)](#).

Citizenship Party (Cidadania)

Political party created on March 6, 1990.

- TSE Resolution No. 16,285 / 1990 (Definitive registration); Resolution TSE nº 17,930 / 1992 (Change of name); TSE court decision on Petition No. 74 (1782-78.1996.6.00.0000) (Change of name).
- *Previous denominations:* Brazilian Communist Party [1990] (PCB) *and* Popular Socialist Party [1992] (PPS).
- *Translation:* Cidadania (Cidadania) (Portuguese); Ciudadanía (Cidadania) (Spanish).

Communist Party of Brazil (PCdoB)

Political party created on June 23, 1988.

- TSE Resolution No. 14,323 / 1988 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Comunista do Brasil (PCdoB) (Portuguese); Partido Comunista de Brasil (PCdoB) (Spanish).

DC

See [Christian Democracy \(DC\)](#).

DEM

See [Democrats \(DEM\)](#).

Democratic Labor Party (PDT)

Political party created on November 10, 1981.

- TSE Resolution No. 11.123/1981 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Democrático Trabalhista (PDT) (Portuguese); Partido Democrático Laborista (PDT) (Spanish).

Democrats (DEM)

Political party created on September 11, 1986.

- TSE Resolution 13,067 / 1986 (Definitive registration); TSE Resolution 22,550 / 2007 (Change of name).
- *Previous denomination:* Liberal Front Party (PFL).
- *Translation:* Democratas (DEM) (Portuguese); Demócratas (DEM) (Spanish).

Free Homeland Party (PPL)

Political party created on October 4, 2011.

- TSE decision in RPP no. 1426-58 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Pátria Livre (PPL) (Portuguese); Partido Patria Libre (PPL) (Spanish).

Go Forward Party (Avante)

Political party created on October 11, 1994.

- TSE Resolution 244/1994 (Definitive registration); Monocratic decision on Petition No. 115 (6-43.1996.6.00.000) (Change of name).
- *Previous denomination:* Labour Party of Brazil (PTdoB).
- *Translation:* Avante (Avante) (Portuguese); Avante (Avante) (Spanish).

Green Party (PV)

Political party created on September 30, 1993.

- TSE Resolution 243/1993 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Verde (PV) (Portuguese); Partido Verde (PV) (Spanish).

Humanist Party of Solidarity (PHS)

Political party created on March 20, 1997.

- TSE Resolution No. 19,825 / 1997 (Definitive registration); TSE Resolution 20,097 / 1998 (Change of name); TSE Resolution 20,636 / 2000 (Change of name).
- *Previous denominations:* National Solidarist Party (PSN) *and* National Solidarity Party (PSN).
- *Translation:* Partido Humanista da Solidariedade (PHS) (Portuguese); Partido Humanista de la Solidaridad (PHS) (Spanish).

Labour Party of Brazil (PTdoB)

See [Go Forward Party \(Avante\)](#).

Liberal Front Party (PFL)

See [Democrats \(DEM\)](#).

MDB

See [Brazilian Democratic Movement \(MDB\)](#).

Municipal Renewal Party (PMR)

See [Republicans \(Republicanos\)](#).

National Ecological Party (PEN)

See [Patriot \(Patri\)](#).

National Labour Party (PTN)

See [We Can \(Pode\)](#).

National Reconstruction Party (PRN)

See [Christian Labor Party \(PTC\)](#).

National Solidarist Party (PSN)

See [Humanist Party of Solidarity \(PHS\)](#).

National Solidarity Party (PSN)

See [Humanist Party of Solidarity \(PHS\)](#).

New Party (Novo)

Political party created on September 15, 2015.

- TSE decision in RPP 843-68 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation*: Partido Novo (Novo) (Portuguese); Partido Nuevo (Novo) (Spanish).

Novo

See [New Party \(Novo\)](#).

Party of the Brazilian Women (PMB)

Political party created on September 29, 2015.

-
- TSE court decision in RPP no. 1554-73 (Definitive registration).
 - *Translation:* Partido da Mulher Brasileira (PMB) (Portuguese); Partido de la Mujer Brasileña (Spanish).

Party of the National Mobilization (PMN)

Political party created on October 25, 1990.

- TSE Resolution No. 17,021 / 1990 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido da Mobilização Nacional (PMN) (Portuguese); Partido de la Movilización Nacional (PMN) (Spanish).

Party of the Republic (PR)

Political party created on December 19, 2006, from the merger of the Liberal Party with the Party of the Reconstruction of the National Order.

- TSE Resolution 22,504 / 2006 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido da República (PR) (Portuguese); Partido de la República (PR) (Spanish).

Patri

See [Patriot \(Patri\)](#).

Patriot (Patri)

Political party created on September 16, 2012.

- TSE decision in RPP No. 1535-72 (Definitive registration). TSE decision in RPP No. 1535-72 (21,874/2011) (Change of name).
- *Previous denomination:* National Ecological Party (PEN).
- *Translation:* Patriota (Patri) (Portuguese); Patriota (Patri) (Spanish).

PCB

See [Citizenship Party \(Cidadania\)](#).

PCB

See [Brazilian Communist Party \(PCB\)](#).

PCdoB

See [Communist Party of Brazil \(PCdoB\)](#).

PCO

See [Workers' Cause Party \(PCO\)](#).

PDT

See [Democratic Labor Party \(PDT\)](#).

PEN

See [Patriot \(Patri\)](#).

PFL

See [Democrats \(DEM\)](#).

PHS

See [Humanist Party of Solidarity \(PHS\)](#).

PMB

See [Party of the Brazilian Women \(PMB\)](#).

PMDB

See [Brazilian Democratic Movement \(MDB\)](#).

PMN

See [Party of the National Mobilization \(PMN\)](#).

PMR

See [Republicans \(Republicanos\)](#).

Pode

See [We Can \(Pode\)](#).

Popular Socialist Party [1992] (PPS)

See [Citizenship Party \(Cidadania\)](#).

Popular Unity (UP)

Political party created on December 10, 2019.

-
- TSE decision in RPP 0600412-09.2019.6.00.0000 (Definitive registration).
 - *Translation:* Unidade Popular (UP) (Portuguese); Unidad Popular (UP) (Spanish).

PP

See [Progressive Party \(PP\)](#).

PPB

See [Progressive Party \(PP\)](#).

PPL

See [Free Homeland Party \(PPL\)](#).

PPS

See [Citizenship Party \(Cidadania\)](#).

PR

See [Party of the Republic \(PR\)](#).

PRB

See [Republicans \(Republicanos\)](#).

PRN

See [Christian Labor Party \(PTC\)](#).

Progressive Party (PP)

Political party created on November 16, 1995 from the merger of the Progressive Reform Party (PPR) [1993-1995] and the Progressive Party (PP) [1993-1995].

- TSE Resolution No. 19,386 / 1995 (Definitive registration); TSE Resolution No. 21,401 / 2003 (Change of name).
- *Previous denomination:* Brazilian Progressive Party (PPB).
- *Translation:* Partido Progressista (PP) (Portuguese); Partido Progresista (PP) (Spanish).

Progressive Republican Party (PRP)

Political party created on October 29, 1991.

- TSE Resolution 17,670 / 1991 (Definitive registration).

-
- *Translation:* Partido Republicano Progressista (PRP) (Portuguese); Partido Republicano Progresista (PRP) (Spanish).

Pros

See [Republican Party of the Social Order \(Pros\)](#).

PRP

See [Progressive Republican Party \(PRP\)](#).

PRT

See [Unified Workers' Socialist Party \(PSTU\)](#).

PRTB

See [Brazilian Labor Renovation Party \(PRTB\)](#).

PSB

See [Brazilian Socialist Party \(PSB\)](#).

PSC

See [Christian Social Party \(PSC\)](#).

PSD

See [Social Democratic Party \(PSD\)](#).

PSDB

See [Brazilian Social Democracy Party \(PSDB\)](#).

PSDC

See [Christian Democracy \(DC\)](#).

PSL

See [Social Liberal Party \(PSL\)](#).

PSN

See [Humanist Party of Solidarity \(PHS\)](#).

PSN

See [Humanist Party of Solidarity \(PHS\)](#).

PSol

See [Socialism and Freedom Party \(PSol\)](#).

PSTU

See [Unified Workers' Socialist Party \(PSTU\)](#).

PT

See [Workers' Party \(PT\)](#).

PTB

See [Brazilian Labor Party \(PTB\)](#).

PTC

See [Christian Labor Party \(PTC\)](#).

PTdoB

See [Go Forward Party \(Avante\)](#).

PTN

See [We Can \(Pode\)](#).

PV

See [Green Party \(PV\)](#).

Rede

See [Sustainability Network \(Rede\)](#).

Republican Party of the Social Order (Pros)

Political party created on September 24, 2013.

- TSE decision in RPP no. 305-24 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Republicano da Ordem Social (Pros) (Portuguese); Partido Republicano del Orden Social (Pros) (Spanish).

Republicanos

See [Republicans \(Republicanos\)](#).

Republicans (Republicanos)

Political party created on August 25, 2005.

- TSE Resolution No. 22,072/2005 (Definitive registration); TSE Resolution No. 22,167/2006 (Change of name); Monocratic decision on request, on August 15, 2019 (Change of name).
- *Previous denominations:* Brazilian Republican Party [2006] (PRB) *and* Municipal Renewal Party (PMR).
- *Translation:* Republicanos (Republicanos) (Portuguese); Republicanos (Republicanos) (Spanish).

Revolutionary Workers' Party (PRT)

See [Unified Workers' Socialist Party \(PSTU\)](#).

SD

See [Solidarity \(SD\)](#).

Social Democratic Party (PSD)

Political party created on September 27, 2011.

- TSE decision in RPP No. 1417-96 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Social Democrático (PSD) (Portuguese); Partido Social Democrático (PSD) (Spanish).

Social Liberal Party (PSL)

Political party created on June 2, 1998.

- TSE Resolution No. 20,211/1998 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Social Liberal (PSL) (Portuguese); Partido Social Liberal (PSL) (Spanish).

Socialism and Freedom Party (PSol)

Political party created on September 15, 2005.

- TSE Resolution 22.083 / 2005 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido Socialismo e Liberdade (PSol) (Portuguese); Partido Socialismo y Libertad (PSol) (Spanish).

Solidarity (SD)

Political party created on September 24, 2013.

- TSE decision in RPP no. 403-09 (Definitive registration).

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- *Translation:* Solidariedade (SD) (Portuguese); Solidaridad (SD) (Spanish).

Sustainability Network (Rede)

Political party created on September 22, 2015.

- TSE judgment in RPP no. 594-54 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Rede Sustentabilidade (Rede) (Portuguese); Rede Sostentabilidad (Rede) (Spanish).

Unified Workers' Socialist Party (PSTU)

Political party created on December 19, 1995.

- TSE Resolution 19,420/1995 (Definitive registration); TSE decision in RGP No 2458 (132-35.1992.6.00.0000) (Change of name).
- *Previous denomination:* Revolutionary Workers' Party (PRT).
- *Translation:* Partido Socialista dos Trabalhadores Unificado (PSTU) (Portuguese); Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores Unificado (PSTU) (Spanish).

We Can (Pode)

Political party created on October 2, 1997.

- TSE Resolution 19,984/1997 (Definitive registration); TSE decision in the Pet No. 52 (658-94.1995.6.00.0000) (change of name).
- *Previous denomination:* National Labour Party (PTN).
- *Translation:* Podemos (Pode) (Portuguese); Podemos (Pode) (Spanish).

Workers' Cause Party (PCO)

Political party created on September 30, 1997.

- TSE Resolution No. 19,550 / 1996 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido da Causa Operária (PCO) (Portuguese); Partido de la Causa Obrera (PCO) (Spanish).

Workers' Party (PT)

Political party created on February 11, 1982.

- TSE Resolution 11,165 / 1981 (Definitive registration).
- *Translation:* Partido dos Trabalhadores (PT) (Portuguese); Partido de los Trabajadores (PT) (Spanish).

List of Differences and Similarities

In-house terminology for the National Congress

Bill of Resolution of the National Congress (PRN)
Commencement Session of a Legislative Session
Commencement of the Legislative Session
Joint Committee on Provisional Presidential Decree (CMMPV)
Representative Committee
Reviewing Rapporteur
Separate Voting for Examination on the Electronic Panel
Session for the Inauguration of the President and Vice-President of the Republic
Session for the Reception of a Foreign Head of State
Solemn Session
Special Joint Committee (CME)
Wording for the Second Round of Voting

In-house terminology for the Chamber of Deputies

Admissibility of a Constitutional Amendment Bill
Advisory Opinion of the Rapporteur
Agglutinative Amendment
Appeal against Conclusive Examination
Appeal against a Committee's Terminative Advisory Opinion
Bill of Resolution of the Chamber of Deputies (PRC)
Brief Communications
College of Leaders
Complaint
Conclusive Examination
Conclusive Power
Conflict of Jurisdiction
Debate Session

Final Wording Amended
General Committee
Long Address
Panel
Parliamentarian Communications
Party Representative
Preferential Separate Voting
Preliminary Examination
Priority Regime
Proposal of Oversight and Control (PFC) [CD]
Select Committee
Select Subcommittee
Short Address
Simple Suppressive Separate Voting
Solemn Session
Speech Considered as Read
Substitute Federal Deputy
Terminative Advisory Opinion
Utmost Urgency

In-house terminology for the Federal Senate

Additional Round of Debate
Appeal in a Terminative Matter
Bill of Resolution of the Federal Senate (PRS)
Confirmation Hearing
Final Text
Final Wording of the Substitute Bill
Leadership Vote
Legislative Idea
Period of Address

Procedural Fast Track
Proposal of Oversight and Control (PFS) [SF]
Special Session
Speech Forwarded for Publication
Substitute of Senator of the Republic
Terminative Decision
Thematic Debates Session
Urgent Communication
Wording for an Additional Round of Debate
Wording for the Second Round of Voting

Different terms for the same concept

Chamber of Deputies	Federal Senate
Advisory Opinion of the Rapporteur	Report [SF]
Appeal against Conclusive Examination	Appeal in a Terminative Matter
Conclusive Examination	Terminative Decision
Debate Session	Thematic Debates Session
Final Wording Amended	Final Wording of the Substitute Bill
Long Address	Period of Address
Proposal of Oversight and Control (PFC) [CD]	Proposal of Oversight and Control (PFS) [SF]
Short Address	Period of Address
Solemn Session	Special Session
Speech Considered as Read	Speech Forwarded for Publication

Same term for different concepts

Term	Chamber of Deputies	Federal Senate
Appeal	Type of legislative proposal to reverse a decision by appealing to a higher instance, such as the Plenary.	With this instrument of the Standing Rules, the reversal of a decision is proposed, by appealing to a higher instance, such as the Plenary.

Ordinary Session	Deliberative plenary session held once a day, from Tuesday to Thursday, starting at two p. m. The ordinary session lasts five hours and consists of Short Address, Long Address, Order of Business and Parliamentary Communications.	Plenary session held once a day on weekdays, from Monday to Friday. It may be deliberative or non-deliberative.
Report	An integral part of an Advisory Opinion, the report is a detailed account of the matter under examination.	A detailed account of the matter to be decided by the Committee in addition to the rapporteur's views as to its adoption or rejection. The report becomes an Advisory Opinion if adopted by the Committee.

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